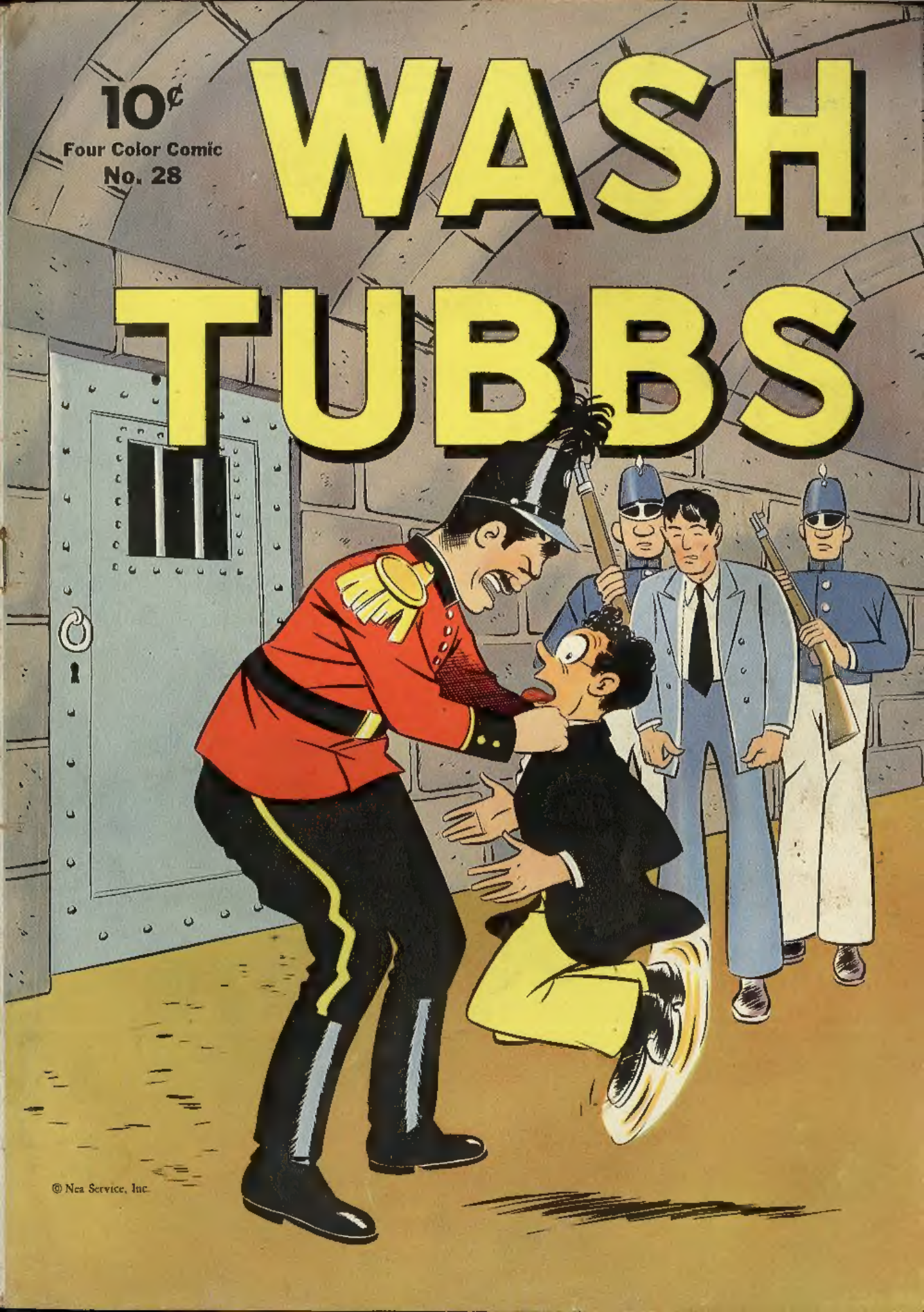
10¢
Four Color Comic
No. 28
WASH TUBBS
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CAPTAIN EASY

SOLDIER of FORTUNE

by Roy CRANE

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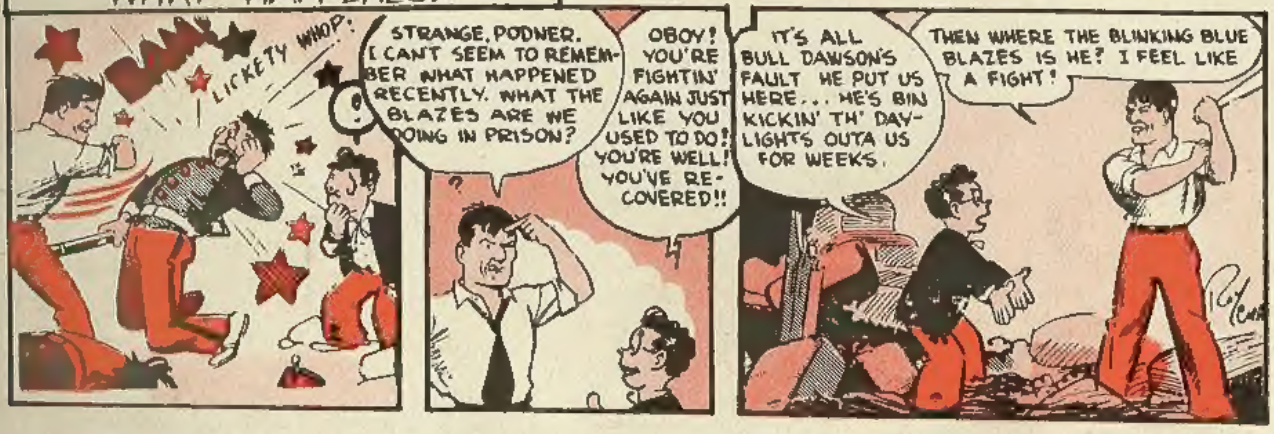
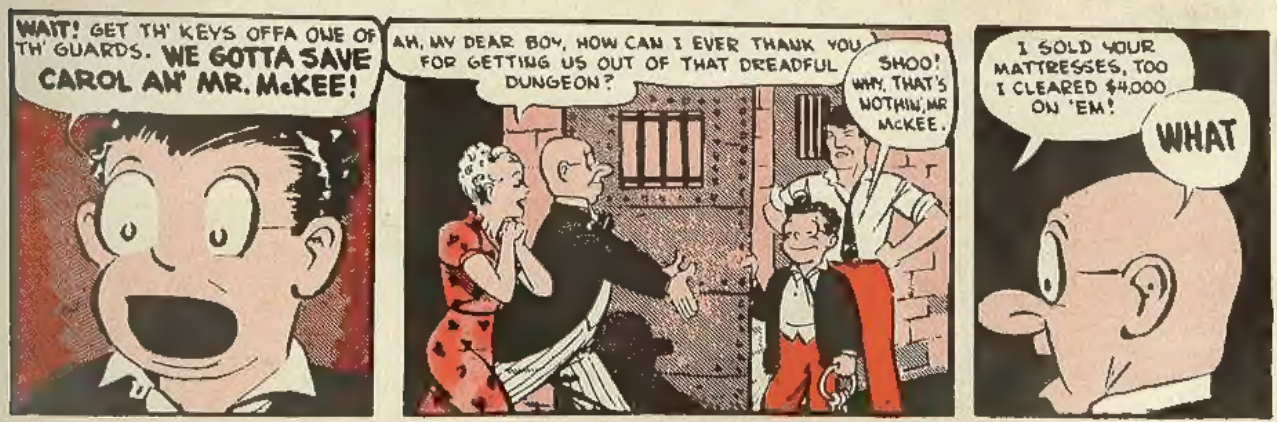
WASH, VERY MUCH IN LOVE WITH CAROL MCKEE, HAS FOLLOWED THE GIRL AND HER FATHER TO PANAZUELA. HE BROUGHT EASY, SUFFERING FROM AMNESIA CAUSED BY A BLOW ON THE HEAD, WITH HIM. THEY ARE THROWN IN PRISON WHEN A REVOLUTION STARTS. THE PRISON IS SHELLED AND EASY EMERGES FROM THE WRECKAGE ASKING WHAT HAPPENED.


LICKETY WHOP!
STRANGE, PODNER. I CAN'T SEEM TO REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED RECENTLY. WHAT THE BLAZES ARE WE DOING IN PRISON?
OBOY! YOU'RE FIGHTIN' AGAIN JUST LIKE YOU USED TO DO! YOU'RE WELL! YOU'VE RECOVERED!!
IT'S ALL BULL DAWSON'S FAULT HE PUT US HERE... HE'S BIN KICKIN' TH' DAYLIGHTS OUTA US FOR WEEKS.
THEN WHERE THE BLINKING BLUE BLAZES IS HE? I FEEL LIKE A FIGHT!


WAIT! GET TH' KEYS OFFA ONE OF TH' GUARDS. WE GOTTA SAVE CAROL AN' MR. McKEE!
AH, MY DEAR BOY, HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU FOR GETTING US OUT OF THAT DREADFUL DUNGEON?
SHOO! WHY, THAT'S NOTHIN', MR McKEE.
I SOLD YOUR MATTRESSES, TOO I CLEARED $4,000 ON 'EM!
WHAT

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OH, ANGEL. I'M SO PROUD OF YOU! I'M—
BUM!
HOLY SMOKE! LE'S GET OUTA HERE!
MY STARS, YES!
WHERE THE BLAZES IS BULL DAWSON?
BUM!
IN THE CAPITAL, ALL IS CONFUSION. BEDLAM!
THE REBELS ARE COMING!
THE REBELS ARE COMING!
TO THE FRONT! I, ADOLFO DE LA CUCARACHA, EXPECT EVERY MAN TO GEEVE HIS LIFE IN DEFENSE OF THE PRESIDENT.
VIVA EL PRESIDENTE!
AND NOW—
HURRY, ENRIQUE! THERE EES NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE! GET A TRUCK. LOAD THE EMERGENCY FUND AND LET US FLY!
LOAD THE MONEY EEN THESE OLD TRUNKS. NO WAN WEEL EVER SUSPEC' WAT THEY CONTAIN.
NOW CALL THE AIRPORT. TELL DAWSON TO LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED TO ASSURE MY SAFETY.
AND NOW THE DISGUISE! LET THE GOVERNMENT FALL! WAT DO I CARE? I, ADOLFO DE LA CUCARACHA, WEETH $6,000,000 EEN GOLD!
THE YELLER LITTLE SCUPPER-RAT! SO HE'S A-FIXIN' TO RUN OFF WI' THE BOOTY, IS HE? WELL, I AIN'T BEEN DOIN' HIS DIRTY WORK FER NOTHIN'! NO, BY THUNDER! THE OPPORTUNITY I'VE BEEN WAITIN' FOR HAS COME!
THE RATTLE OF MUSKETRY GROWS LOUDER. BULLETS RICOCHET AND WHINE THRU THE STREETS OF THE CAPITAL. FROM THE HARBOR A REBEL GUNBOAT OPENS FIRE.
MAN THE BARRICADES! THEY'RE GOING TO ATTACK!
OH, MY STARS! WHAT'LL WE DO?
WHERE'S EASY?

FROM THE SURROUNDING HILLS, OTHER REBEL GUNS SOON JOIN IN A DEAFENING CANNONADE. THERE IS PANIC, TERROR!
BA-ROOM
BOOM
WHERE ON EARTH IS EASY?
HI-YA, FOLKS. JUMP IN! THIS GENTLEMAN HAS KINDLY OFFERED TO DRIVE US TO THE AIRPORT — HE SAYS WE MAY BE ABLE TO CHARTER A PLANE.
THE FORTUNES OF WAR, MY DEAR DAWSON. IN TODAY AND OUT TOMORROW. COME — HELP ME LOAD MY — AH — PERSONAL EFFECTS.
GREAT GUNS! DIDN'T YOU GET MY MESSAGE?
WAT MESSAGE?
HIDE! QUICK! YOUR LIFE AIN'T WORTH A PLUGGED NICKEL ASSASSINS ARE EVERYWHERE. THEY'RE LAY-IN' FOR YOU!
DON'T ARGUE! HIDE! GIT IN THIS BOX — AND LEAVE ME LOAD YER PLANE!
BUT..
I KNOWED IT. HE'S TAKIN' THE WHOLE BLOOMIN' TREASURY WITH HIM! QUICK BUST THESE LOCKS, DUMP THE GOLD IN THE TRUCK, AN' LOAD HIS PLANE WITH EMPTY TRUNKS!
HA! OLD CUCARACHA DOESN'T DREAM THAT WE 'AVE JOINED THE REBELS.
NEVER MIND THAT! DUMP TH' GOLD WHILE I'M LOADIN' HIS PLANE.
NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO ESCAPE. HURRY!
MY DEAR, LOYAL FRIEND! NEVER WEEL I FORGET WAT YOU 'AVE DONE!
I'LL SAY HE WON'T FORGET! HAW, HAW, HAW! JUST WAIT'LL OLD CUCARACHA OPENS THEM TRUNKS AND FINDS THAT IVE GOT TH' GOLD!
YOU MEAN THAT WE 'AVE EET!
AH, WAT A SERVICE TO PANAZUELA! OH, 'OW GRATEFUL OUR COUNTRY WEEL BE THAT WE 'AVE SAVE THE TREASURY!
WE AIN'T SAVIN' NOTHIN FOR PANAZUELA, STUPID! FROM NOW ON THIS BLOOMIN' BOOTY BELONGS TO ME!
WAT? YOU ARE STEALING THE PANAZUELAN TREASURY!
THAT'S THE GEN'RAL IDEA, ME HEARTY

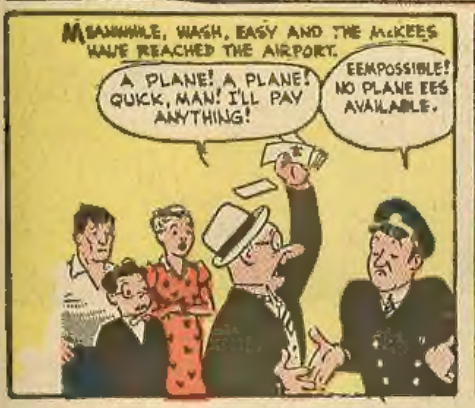
CAPTAIN EASY

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

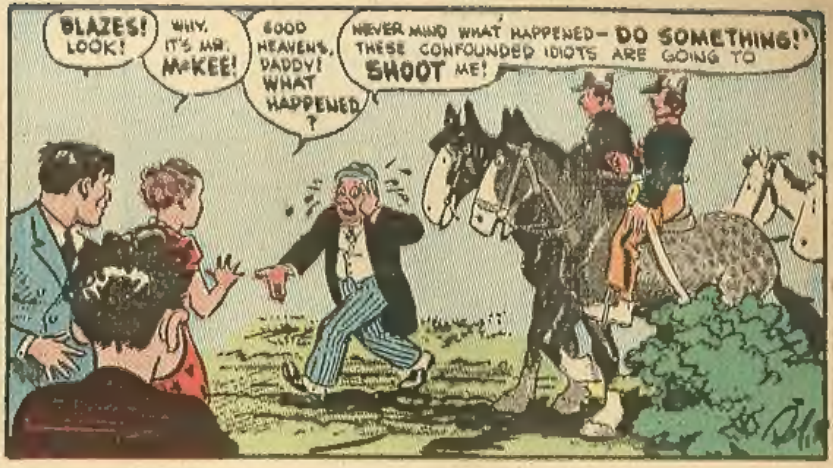
by ROY CRANE

NO, DAWSON! NO! THEES MONEY BELONGS TO MY COUNTRY. I LOVE MY COUNTRY! I WEEL NOT PERMIT YOU TO STEAL IT!
FORGET IT. MAYBE I'LL LET YE IN ON A 10% SPLIT.

THEY FOUR INTO THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE.
GONE! THE DOG OF A PRESIDENT HAS GOTTEN AWAY WEETH THE TREASURY!
TO THE AIR-PORT! ANDALE! STOP HIM!


MEANWHILE, WASH, EASY AND THE McKEES HAVE REACHED THE AIRPORT.
A PLANE! A PLANE! QUICK, MAN! I'LL PAY ANYTHING!
EEMPOSSIBLE! NO PLANE EES AVAILABLE.

H-MM, ON SECOND THOUGHT, I'M STUCK ON A SAND BAR W' $4000.00 O' GOVERNMENT MONEY ABOARD. IF THEM BLOOMIN' REBELS FIND ME WITH IT, I'M A GONER.
HEY! AIN'T YOU MR McKEE? WELL, STAB ME DEAD, SIR, I DON'T RECOGNIZE YE. WHY, SURE I'LL RENT ME BOAT TO YE.
GLADLY, SIR. A THOUSAND PARDONS, SIR. ANYTHING TO OBLIGE A FRIEND. THERE, THA'S THE WAY.... JUST SIGN THIS LITTLE PAPER TO SIGNIFY THAT YOU'RE TH' ONE WHAT'S RESPONSIBLE.
OKAY, DAWSON, BUT LET'S GET GOING.
YOU'D BETTER RUN UP TO THE AIRPORT AND GET WASH AND EASY, HONEY. TELL 'EM I'VE CHARTERED A LAUNCH. WE'RE LEAVING AT ONCE.
THA'S WOT HE THINKS.
GENERAL DAWSON. I BELIEVE YOU 'AVE JOIN OUR REBEL FORCES, NO?
RIGHTO, CAP'N. AN' I DANG NEAR CAPTURED THE BLOOMIN' PRESIDENT, TOO.
WHOSE BOAT IS THIS?
IT WAS CHARTERED BY OLD BALDY McKEE. I'VE JUST PLACED HIM UNNER ARREST.
GOLD! WHY, IT'S LOADED WEETH THE STOLEN TREASURY FUNDS!
SURE. WHAT THE THUNDER DO YOU THINK I ARRESTED HIM FOR?
IT'S A FRAME-UP! I TELL YOU I NEVER SAW THAT MONEY BEFORE! I CHARTERED THIS BOAT FROM DAWSON AND THE MONEY WAS ALREADY ABOARD!
THA'S A LIE. YOU CAN SEE BY HIS PAPERS, CAP'N, THAT HE HIRED IT FROM A SWAB NAMED GARCIA.
EXACTLY.
IT'S AS PLAIN AS DAN. HIM AN' PRESIDENT CUCARACHA ARE PALS. THEY'RE IN CAHOOTS. OLD CUCARACHA LEFT IN TOO BIG A HURRY TO TAKE THE TREASURY FUNDS HISSELF, SO HE ENTRUSTED THEM TO BALDY.
THAT'S NOT SO! YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME! YOU'VE GOT TO, I TELL YOU. IT WAS BULL DAWSON WHO STOLE THAT MONEY!
HO HUM!
YOU WEEL KINDLY ESCORT SENOR McKEE TO THE PLAZA, SERGEANT, AND TURN HEEM OVER TO A FIRING SQUAD.
NEVER MIND TRYING TO HIRE A PLANE. DADDY'S CHARTERED A BOAT.


BLAZES! LOOK!
WHY, IT'S MR. McKEE!
GOOD HEAVENS, DADDY! WHAT HAPPENED?
NEVER MIND WHAT HAPPENED— DO SOMETHING! THESE CONFOUNDED IDIOTS ARE GOING TO SHOOT ME!

THE REBEL CAVALRY IS MARCHING DADDY TO A FIRING SQUAD! OH, DARLING, WE MUST SAVE HIM!
BUT HOW, CAROL? WE HAVEN'T EVEN A GUN!
NEVER MIND. HELP LOAD THIS OLD WATER WAGON WITH TIN CANS AND ROCKS.
BONG!

UNARMED, WASH AND EASY ATTEMPT TO FREE MILLIONAIRE McKEE FROM A DETACHMENT OF REBEL CAVALRY.

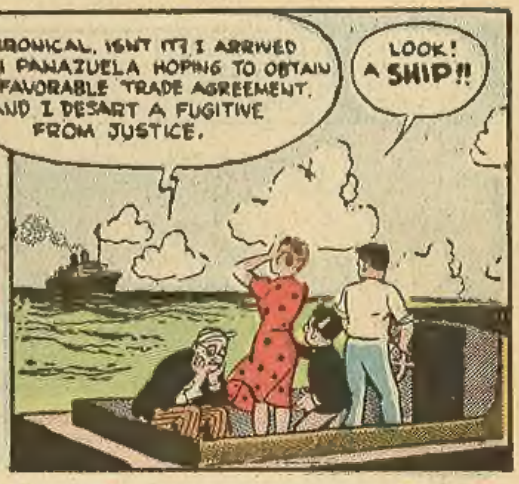
LICKETY CLATTER!
KA-HOPPO!
BAM!
QUICK, MR. MACKEE—GET IN!
!
OH, MY STARS AND BODY!
TO THE BOAT—HURRY! BEFORE THE WHOLE ARMY IS AFTER US!
MEANWHILE:
OH, HO! THAT FOOL OFFICER'S GONE AFTER A TRUCK. NOW'S OUR CHANCE FER A GETAWAY, LADS. HEAVE-O, ME HEARTIES, HEAVE!
EH? WHAT'S THAT?
THE PRISONER, HE EES GONE! WE ARE MARCHING THE AMERICANO TO THE EXECUTION. WE SUSPECT NOSSING WHEN WHOOIE! BAM! BANG! OH, WHAT A RACKET! OH, WHAT WILD HORSES WE RIDE!
AND POOF—HE EES GONE! TWO MEN AND A GIRL AID IN THE ESCAPE.
TO ARMS! TO ARMS! GET THE AMERICANO DEAD OR ALIVE!
MEANWHILE:
THERE'S THE BOAT, BUT WHAT IF MR. DAWSON WONT PERMIT US ABOARD?
THIS IS A MATTER OF LIFE AN' DEATH, HONEY. WE GOTTA GET ABOARD.
COME ON. I HAVE SOMETHING TO SETTLE WITH DAWSON, ANYWAY.
HO, HO, HO! THERE AINT NOBODY ON LAND ER SEA WOT KIN OUTSMART OLD BULL DAWSON, BY THUNDER! TH' ENTIRE PANAZUELAN TREASURY, AN' IT'S MINE! I'VE OUTSMARTED 'EM ALL. I'VE GOT US OFF THE SAND BAR—
I'VE···HEY! WOT THE BLOOMIN' THUNDER YOU DOIN' HERE?
I'VE CHARTERED THIS BOAT, DAWSON, AND I'M GETTING ON.
OH, NO YOU AINT! NOT ON THIS TUB!
THE BLAZES HE ISN'T!

SAVE YOU, ME FINE AN' 'ANDSOME BUCKO. UP'N AWAY, MY BULLY BOYS! START THE MOTORS!
SPLATT!
ONCE MORE EASY TRIES TO CLIMB ABOARD, AND AGAIN...
BOP!
LIVELY, LADS! HEAVE THEM BLOOMIN' SWABS OVERBOARD! UP WI' THE ANCHORS!
LICKETY WHOP!
BANG!
OH, HO! I MUST OF GOT 'IM— HE AIN'T COME UP.
YOU'RE SLIPPING, DAWSON. ONCE THERE WAS A TIME WHEN YOU HAD THE COURAGE TO FIGHT A MAN HAND TO HAND.
SWISH!
IZZAT SO?
KA-LICK!
WHY, YOU YELLER-LIVERED SISSY, THE DAY AIN'T EVER DAWNED WHEN I COULDN'T MOP UP THE LIKE O' YOU BY THUNDER!
KA-LUP!
WHOOPEE! BATTLE ROYAL! EVEN OLD MCKEE'S IN IT. LEFTS AND RIGHTS AND TOE TO TOE. HOW THAT DAWSON CAN FIGHT!
OH, MY STARS AND BODY!
LEGGO MY HAIR!
OW! MY THUMB!
LICKETY WHOP!
HAW HAW! YOU BLOOMIN' SOFTY, YOU CAN'T TAKE IT, HEY?
SURE, CAN YOU?
GETTING OLD, THAT'S YOUR TROUBLE, DAWSON. YOU'VE LOST YOUR PUNCH.
OLD, AM I? OLD, HEY? WHY, YOU BLANKETY-BLANKED SCUPPER RAT, TAKE THAT—OOF! OOF!— AND THAT!
OH, MY STARS! HELP! MURDER! TAKE 'IM OFF!
Whopp!
YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE, WASH. NEVER WILL I FORGET THIS.
QUICK! WE'VE GOT TO MAKE A GETAWAY. INTO THE SKIFF WITH THESE MUGGS. THE REBELS ARE COMING!

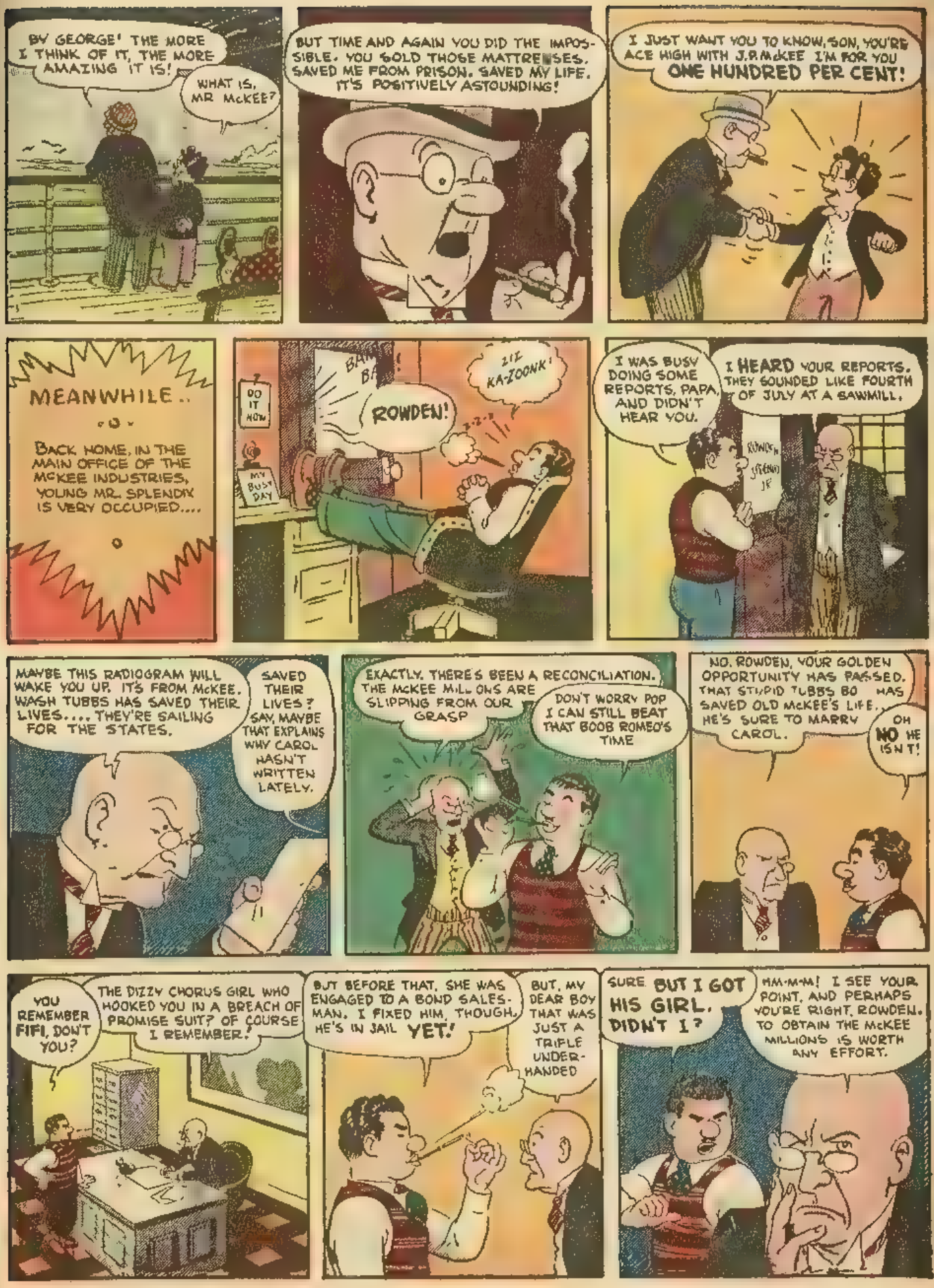
CAPTAIN EASY

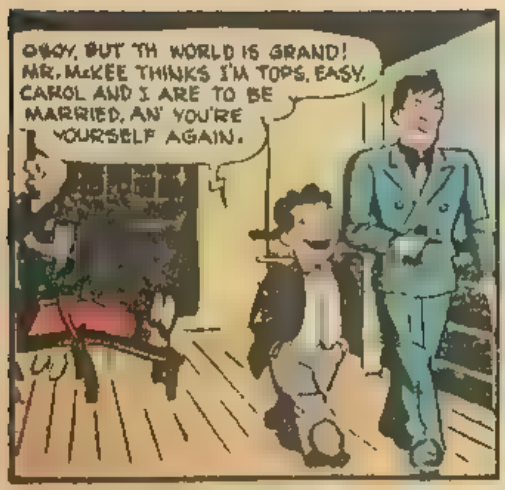
Soldier of Fortune

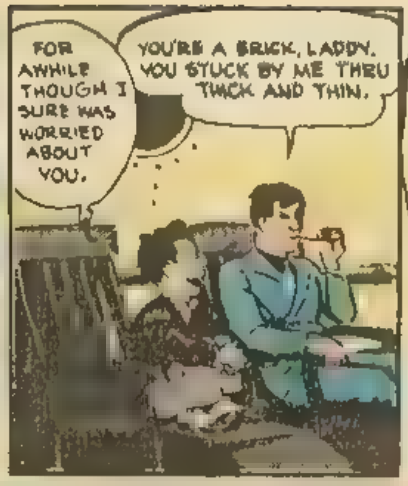
by Roy Crane

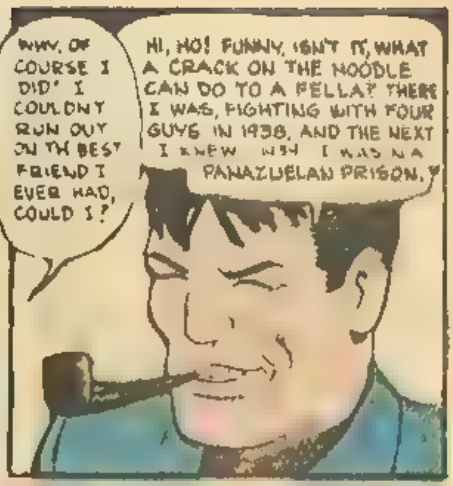

IRONICAL, ISN'T IT? I ARRIVED IN PANAZUELA HOPING TO OBTAIN A FAVORABLE TRADE AGREEMENT, AND I DESART A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE.
LOOK! A SHIP!!

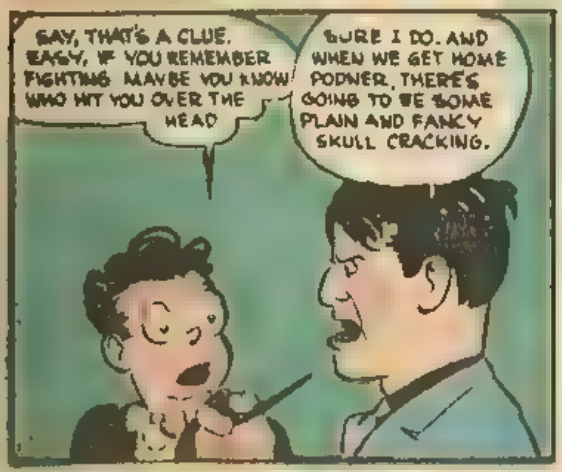
LATER:
LISTEN TO THIS REPLY: "HAVE FOLLOWED YOUR DIRECTIONS AND RECOVERED MISSING TREASURY FUNDS. PLEASE ACCEPT HUMBLE APOLOGY OF PANAZUELAN GOVERNMENT. IN GRATITUDE WISH TO ANNOUNCE THAT ALL McKEE PRODUCTS ENTERING COUNTRY IN THE FUTURE WILL BE DUTY FREE."
WELL, BY GEORGE!

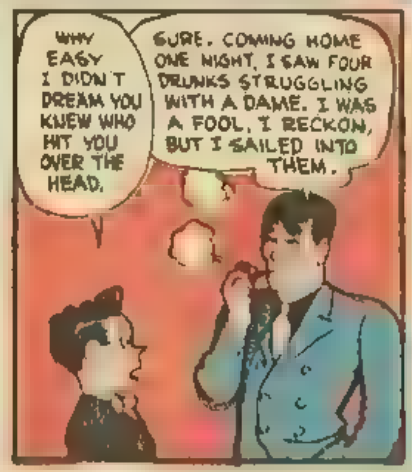

BY GEORGE! THE MORE I THINK OF IT, THE MORE AMAZING IT IS!
WHAT IS, MR McKEE?
BUT TIME AND AGAIN YOU DID THE IMPOSSIBLE. YOU SOLD THOSE MATTRESSES, SAVED ME FROM PRISON, SAVED MY LIFE. IT'S POSITIVELY ASTOUNDING!
I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW, SON, YOU'RE ACE HIGH WITH J.P.McKEE I'M FOR YOU ONE HUNDRED PER CENT!
MEANWHILE..
BACK HOME, IN THE MAIN OFFICE OF THE McKEE INDUSTRIES, YOUNG MR. SPLENDY IS VERY OCCUPIED....
DO IT NOW
MY BUSY DAY
ROWDEN!
ZIZ KA-ZOONK!
I WAS BUSY DOING SOME REPORTS, PAPA, AND DIDN'T HEAR YOU.
I HEARD YOUR REPORTS. THEY SOUNDED LIKE FOURTH OF JULY AT A SAWMILL.
MAYBE THIS RADIOGRAM WILL WAKE YOU UP. IT'S FROM McKEE. WASH TUBBS HAS SAVED THEIR LIVES.... THEY'RE SAILING FOR THE STATES.
SAVED THEIR LIVES? SAY, MAYBE THAT EXPLAINS WHY CAROL HASN'T WRITTEN LATELY.
EXACTLY. THERE'S BEEN A RECONCILIATION. THE McKEE MILLIONS ARE SLIPPING FROM OUR GRASP
DON'T WORRY POP I CAN STILL BEAT THAT BOOB ROMEO'S TIME
NO, ROWDEN, YOUR GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY HAS PASSED. THAT STUPID TUBBS BO HAS SAVED OLD McKEE'S LIFE. HE'S SURE TO MARRY CAROL.
OH NO HE ISN'T!
YOU REMEMBER FIFI, DON'T YOU?
THE DIZZY CHORUS GIRL WHO HOOKED YOU IN A BREACH OF PROMISE SUIT? OF COURSE I REMEMBER.
BUT BEFORE THAT, SHE WAS ENGAGED TO A BOND SALESMAN. I FIXED HIM, THOUGH. HE'S IN JAIL YET!
BUT, MY DEAR BOY THAT WAS JUST A TRIFLE UNDERHANDED
SURE BUT I GOT HIS GIRL, DIDN'T I?
HM-M-M! I SEE YOUR POINT, AND PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT, ROWDEN. TO OBTAIN THE McKEE MILLIONS IS WORTH ANY EFFORT.


OBOY, BUT TH WORLD IS GRAND! MR. McKEE THINKS I'M TOPS, EASY. CAROL AND I ARE TO BE MARRIED, AN' YOU'RE YOURSELF AGAIN.

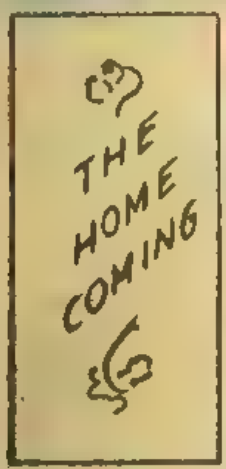

FOR AWHILE THOUGH I SURE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
YOU'RE A BRICK, LADDY. YOU STUCK BY ME THRU THICK AND THIN.


WHY, OF COURSE I DID' I COULDN'T RUN OUT ON TH BEST FRIEND I EVER HAD, COULD I?
HI, HO! FUNNY, ISN'T IT, WHAT A CRACK ON THE NOODLE CAN DO TO A FELLA? THERE I WAS, FIGHTING WITH FOUR GUYS IN 1938, AND THE NEXT I KNEW WAS I WAS IN A PANAZUELAN PRISON.

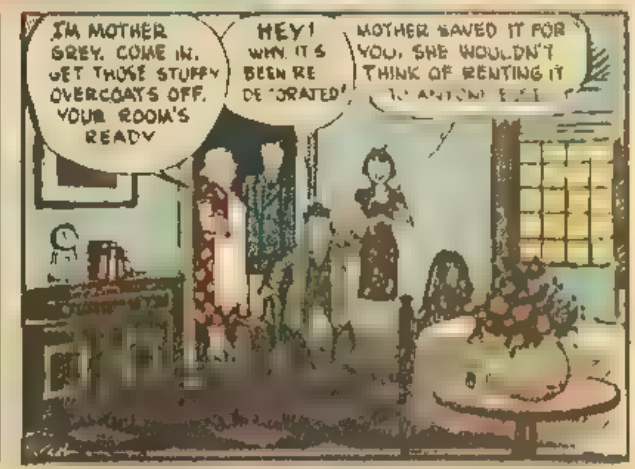

SAY, THAT'S A CLUE, EASY, IF YOU REMEMBER FIGHTING MAYBE YOU KNOW WHO HIT YOU OVER THE HEAD
SURE I DO. AND WHEN WE GET HOME PODNER, THERE'S GOING TO BE SOME PLAIN AND FANCY SKULL CRACKING.

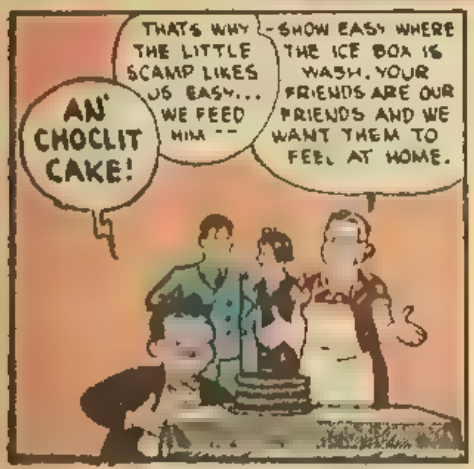

WHY EASY I DIDN'T DREAM YOU KNEW WHO HIT YOU OVER THE HEAD.
SURE. COMING HOME ONE NIGHT, I SAW FOUR DRUNKS STRUGGLING WITH A DAME. I WAS A FOOL, I RECKON, BUT I SAILED INTO THEM.

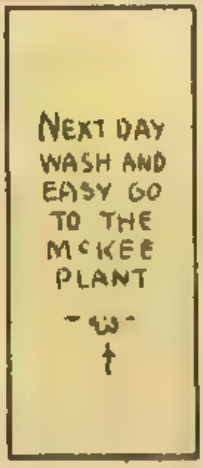
I'LL NEVER FORGET THE FACE OF THE GUY WITH THAT WRENCH I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME, BUT BLIEVE ME I'LL GET HIM.
GOSH YES WHY HE NEARLY KILLED YOU'


THE HOME COMING

LAND SAKES A-LIVING! VIRGINIA, COME QUICK! IT'S WASH TUBBS!
SURPRISE! SURPRISE!


IM MOTHER GREY. COME IN. GET THOSE STUFFY OVERCOATS OFF. YOUR ROOM'S READY
HEY! WHY, IT'S BEEN RE DE'ORATED!
MOTHER SAVED IT FOR YOU. SHE WOULDN'T THINK OF RENTING IT


AN' CHOCLIT CAKE!
THAT'S WHY THE LITTLE SCAMP LIKES US EASY... WE FEED HIM --
SHOW EASY WHERE THE ICE BOX IS WASH. YOUR FRIENDS ARE OUR FRIENDS AND WE WANT THEM TO FEEL AT HOME.


NEXT DAY WASH AND EASY GO TO THE McKEE PLANT

WHAT THIS ORGANIZATION NEEDS, BOYS, IS RED-BLOODED, TWO-FISTED GO-GETTERS LIKE YOU
McKEE INDUSTRIES

MILES OF EXECUTIVES... BAH! AND HALF OF THEM AREN'T WORTH A DIME A DOZEN.
PRIVATE
GENTLEMEN, THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFE-TIME IS BEFORE YOU. YOU'VE GOT THE STUFF, IT'S UP TO YOU TO PRODUCE.
AND YOU, WASH, I NEEDN'T REMIND YOU THAT SOME DAY, AFTER YOU'RE MARRIED TO CAROL YOU'LL INHERIT EVERYTHING. USE THE BRAINS IN YOUR HEAD, MY BOY, AND YOU WILL BE A CAPTAIN OF INDUSTRY.
YES SIR.
YOU REMEMBER YOUNG TUBBS, MR SPLENDIX, SAVED MY LIFE. GOING TO MARRY CAROL.
AH, YES, INDEED. MR. TUBBS, YES, INDEED!
AND THIS IS CAPTAIN EASY A TWO-FISTED BUCKAROO. BOTH JOINING THE COMPANY. EXPECT BIG THINGS OF THEM.
DELIGHTED, CAPTAIN EASY. DEE-LIGHTED, SIR.
AH JUST LEAVE THE MINOR ITEMS TO ME, J.P. THESE FINE YOUNG MEN, FOR INSTANCE.... WHY, I'D BE DEE-LIGHTED TO TAKE THEM IN CHARGE.
AH YES, THANKS, OLD CHAP! THANKS A MILLION! BOYS, YOU'RE NOW UNDER THE DIRECT PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF MR SPLENDIX, OUR GENERAL MANAGER.
WELL, WELL, SO YOU FINE YOUNG MEN ARE TO JOIN McKEE INDUSTRIES! NOW LET ME SEE — WHAT IS THE BEST WAY FOR YOU TO GET OFF TO A FLYING START?
AH, I HAVE IT! SEND FOR MASTER ROWDEN. HE'S ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A WARM ADMIRER OF MR. TUBBS... HE'LL BE DELIGHTED TO SHOW YOU BOYS THE ROPES.
HEY DIZZY! THE OLD MAN WANTS YOU HE'S WAITING WITH TUBBS AND A CAPTAIN EASY.
EASY! GREAT SCOTT, IS HE HERE? LISTEN HONEY, TELL THE GUVNOR AWFULLY SORRY — JUST REMEMBERED AN APPOINTMENT — VERY IMPORTANT! GOTTA GO!
AH, THERE, ROWDEN! HERE YOU ARE, MY BOY.
SORRY GUVNOR. IMPORTANT CONFERENCE. GOTTA GO
STUFF AND NONSENSE, BOY. TUBBS AND CAPTAIN EASY ARE TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH McKEE INDUSTRIES... I PROMISED YOU'D SHOW 'EM AROUND.
HI ROWDY
WELL, AH I'LL LEAVE THEM IN YOUR HANDS SON. HAVE AN IMPORTANT CONFERENCE OF MY OWN.
YES SIR

GET A DOCTOR
HURRY!
MASTER HOWDEN AND EASY GOT INTO A FIGHT
THERE, J.P! THERE! THAT'S THE KIND OF A TWO-FISTED BUCKAROO YOUR CAPTAIN EASY IS! HE NEARLY KILLED MY BOY!
AND FOR NO REASON AT ALL I'LL NOT STAND FOR IT, YOU UNDERSTAND! I DEMAND THAT EASY BE DISCHARGED IMMEDIATELY!
I TOLD YOU THAT IF I LET EVEN A TH THE MUG WHO CRACKED MY SKULL AND LEFT ME FOR DEAD IN A FREIGHT YARD
PODNER..
AND I DID! ROWDY SPLENDIK IS THE GUY
OH, MY GOSH! ARE YOU CRAZY?
OH! OH MY HEAD! MY NOSE! I FEEL LIKE A SACK OF BROKEN BOTTLES
AH HE'S FEELING BETTER NOW.
FIGHTING! THE IDEA! AND NEITHER OF THEM WILL TELL WHY
IT'S A PERSONAL MATTER SUH BETWEEN THAT BUM AND MYSELF
NOW SEE HERE YOU YOUNG WHIPPER-SNAPPERS I'LL TOLERATE NO MORE OF IT. THERE'S GOT TO BE HARMONY IN THE ORGANIZATION. YOU'LL EITHER SHAKE HANDS AND BE FRIENDS, OR HAND IN YOUR RESIGNATIONS.
IN THAT CASE, SUH, THE AFFAIR'S SETTLED
YEAH
BUT I'LL GET EVEN, PAPA. YOU JUST WAIT!
BAH! THAT SKUNK DIDN'T GET HALF THE BEATING HE DESERVED.

SEVERAL DAYS PASS BEFORE WASH IS ABLE TO RETURN TO WORK.

I HOPE YOU WON'T LET THAT LITTLE MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN EASY AND ME INTERFERE WITH OUR FRIENDSHIP, WASH

OF COURSE NOT.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT! YOU'RE A REAL GUY! WHY EVER SINCE I WAS A LITTLE KID WHEN YOU'VE BEEN SORT OF A HERO OF MINE... I WOULDN'T LOSE YOUR FRIENDSHIP FOR THE WORLD!

AW THANKS BOWDY

GOSH! THEY SURE HANDED YOU A FANCY OFFICE DIDN'T THEY?

OH IT'S OKAY FOR A BEGINNER, I GUESS.

THE HELL IT IS! NOT FOR A FRIEND OF MINE! HERE WE'LL TRADE. YOU TAKE MY OFFICE WASH I INSIST! I WON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER

OF COURSE I'D RATHER HAVE YOUR OFFICE BOWDY ANY-BODY WOULD, BUT MY GOSH...

THEN IT'S A TRADE TUBBY NOT ANOTHER WORD I INSIST

LATER:

WHERE'S WASH?

OH HE MOVED INTO THE BIG OFFICE—THE ONE I USED TO HAVE

HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

WELL I WASN'T GOING TO MENTION IT BUT WASH THOUGHT THIS WAS SHABBY AND DRAB, HE SAID HE'D RATHER HAVE MY OFFICE WITH THE RADIO AND FANCY FURNITURE

PLEASE I'LL SAY ANY THING TO WASH HE MUST PLEASE! I'M TRYING TO GET ALONG WITH HIM AS LONG AS I CAN BE WASH HARMONY I DON'T MIND IN THE LEAST

MY STARS AND BODY! WHAT'S COME OVER HIM?

LEAVE IT TO ME, PAL I KNOW THE VERY THING.

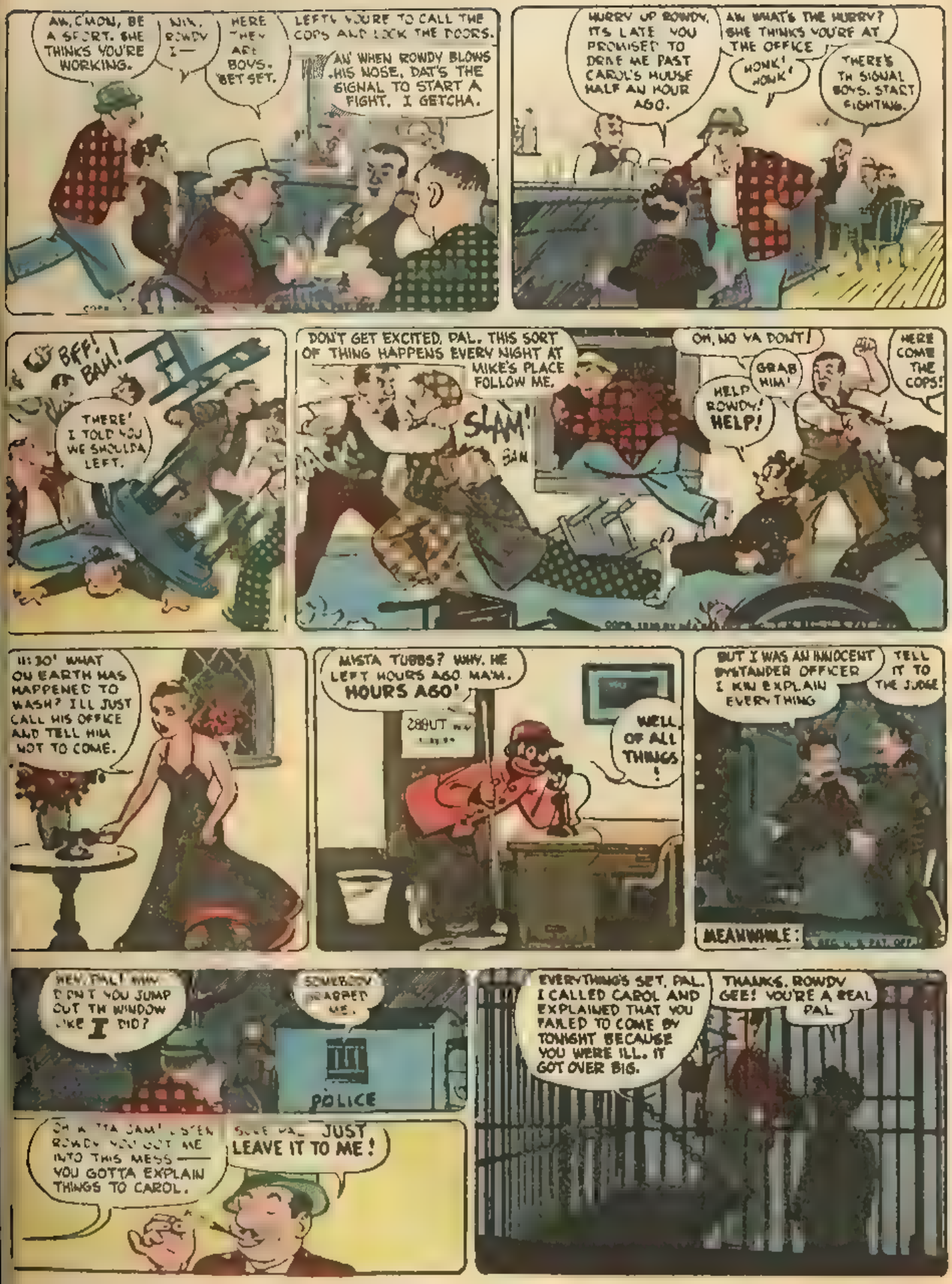
I WISH I HAD A PAPER WEIGHT

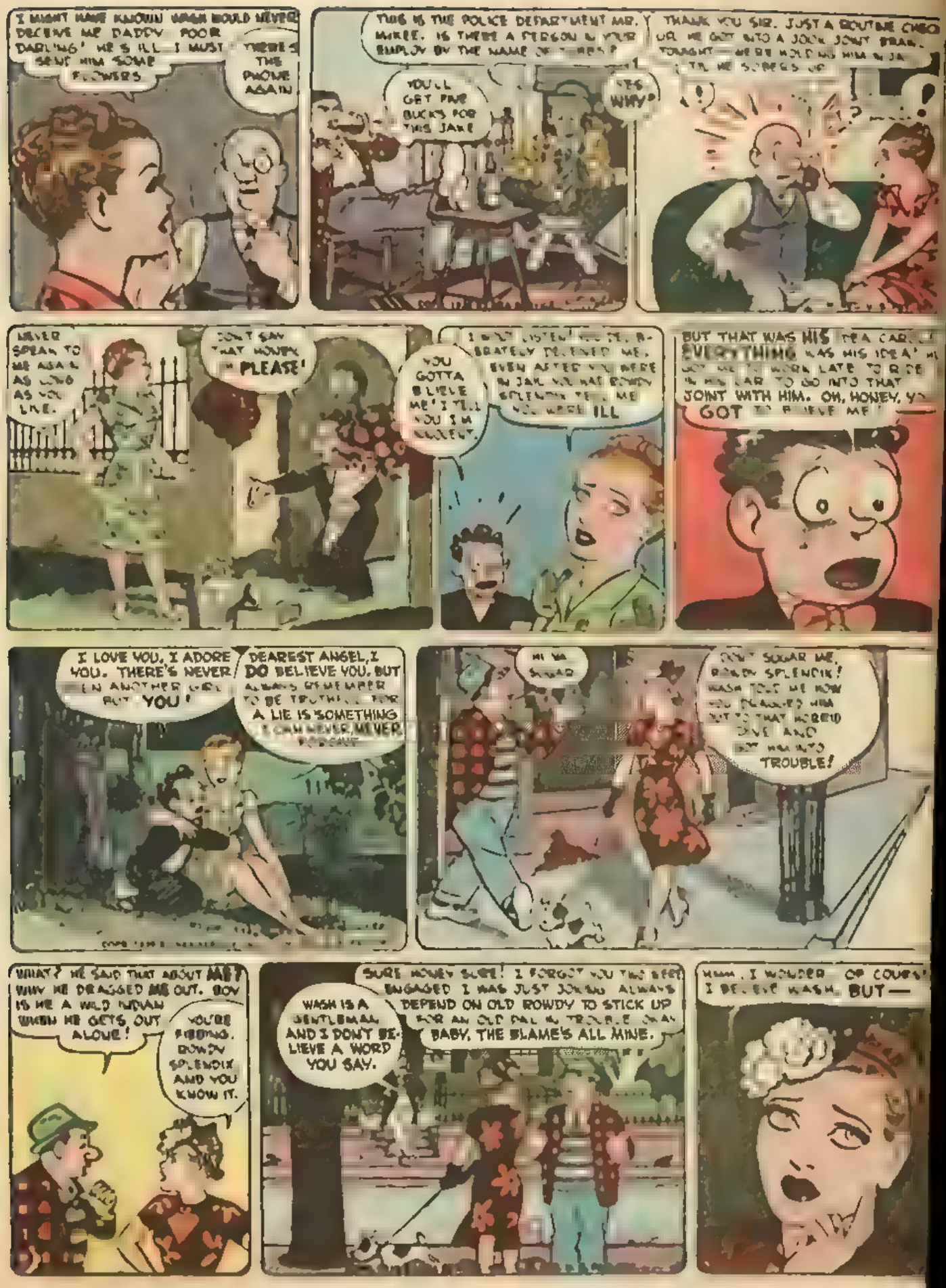
WHOA, THERE! WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THAT STATUE?

TO WASH'S OFFICE SIR HE WANTS TO USE IT AS A PAPER WEIGHT.

A WHAT?
A PAPER WEIGHT, MR. McKEE. I'M SURE WASH MEANS NO OFFENSE, SIR, BUT WHEN HE GETS TO PLAYING THE RADIO, HE COMPLAINS THAT THE PAPERS FLY ALL OVER HIS OFFICE.
OF ALL THE CONFOUNDED IMPERTINENCE! FIRST WASH APPROPRIATES ROWDEN'S OFFICE BECAUSE IT HAS A RADIO, AND NOW HE TRIES TO TAKE OVER MY PRICELESS ART OBJECTS FOR PAPER WEIGHTS!
BOY, YOU SURE ARE A GLUTTON FOR WORK. DOWN AT THE OFFICE BEFORE DAWN, AND AT 5 O'CLOCK YOU STILL HAVEN'T HAD LUNCH.
I'M TRYING TO MAKE GOOD ROWDY. I HAVEN'T TIME TO EAT
YOU MUST BE STARVED. TELL YOU WHAT, PAL — I'LL BORROW A CAR AND BRING YOU A NICE, JUICY HAMBURGER. WANT ME TO?
FINE BUT PLEASE DON'T BOTHER ME — I GOTTA TAKE DOWN THESE MARKET REPORTS.
EXCUSE ME, MR. McKEE, BUT WASH IS LISTENING TO THE RADIO — HE WANTS ME TO TAKE YOUR CAR AND GET HIM A HAMBURGER.
WHAT!
CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! BY GEORGE, I CAN'T. DOWN IN PANAZUELA WASH WAS A WONDER, BUT AS SOON AS HE GOT INTO THIS OFFICE...
AH, YES, I KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL, J.P. A DREADFUL SHOCK, I'M SURE.
TAKE A MEMO TO ROWDEN SPLENDIX. MY DEAR ROWDEN: I HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT WASH TUBBS HAS BEEN PLACED IN YOUR CHARGE...
...WHICH MEANS THAT YOU'RE BOSS, CONFOUND IT, AND NOT HIM. YOU'RE TO STOP RUNNING HIS ERRANDS. YOU'RE TO STOP HIS IMPERTINENCE. YOU'RE TO MAKE HIM WORK, AND WORK LIKE BLAZES! SIGNED, WITH KINDEST REGARDS, J.P.M.
HOT DOG! JUST WHAT I'VE BEEN EXPECTING.
MY BUSY DAY

BUT ROWDY I'M HERE SINCE 7 AND I GOTTA LATE WITH CAROL TONIGHT
SORRY OLD TOP BUT THE OLD MAN'S RAISING CAIN. YOU'D BETTER STICK AROUND AND BURN A LITTLE MIDNIGHT OIL.
OF ALL THINGS! WASH CALLED AND BROKE OUR DATE HE SAYS HE HAS TO WORK
HUMPH! IT'S ABOUT TIME
WHY DADDY! YOU TALK LIKE AN OLD CORE
THERE'S THE DOOR BELL HONEY YOU'D BETTER YOU ANSWER IT.
WHY HONEY! WASH IS STUCK AT THE OFFICE. I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO TAKE IN A MOVIE...
WHY ROWDY. YOU'RE A DEAR.
YOU'RE A SWEET, UNSELFISH DEAR.
SO WASH TUBBS IS GOING TO MARRY MILLIONS, EH OH NO! I'M ALREADY GETTING OLD MCKEE DOWN ON HIM— NOW TO START ON CAROL.
SEE HERE ROWDY SPLENCER I DON'T WANT YOUR REMARK BOSS BUT WHEN YOU MAKE ME WORK LATE AT NIGHT YOU KEEP AWAY FROM MY GIRL!
WHY WASH YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND CAROL WAS LONELY I WAS ONLY TRYING TO DO YOU A FAVOR
JUST THE SAME YOU KEEP AWAY FROM HER!
OKAY SORREHEAD AND BY THE WAY YOU'D BETTER STAY DOWN LATE AGAIN TONIGHT.
BUT I CAN'T BREAK TWO DATES IN A ROW HOLY SMOKE!
SHE'LL UNDERSTAND AND JUST TO SHOW YOU MY HEART IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE I'LL STAY DOWN WITH YO
I'M SORRY HONEY BUT SKEETS ARE AND I GOTTA WORK LATE.
THAT NIGHT:
NO HUM. TIME TO QUIT WASH I... DRIVE YOU HOME IN MY CAR
FINE
ONLY TEN O'CLOCK. LE'S STOP AT MIKE'S FOR A
NO THANKS ROWDY. I TOLD CAROL I MIGHT DROP BY FOR A MINUTE.


AW, C'MON, BE A SPORT. SHE THINKS YOU'RE WORKING.
WH, ROWDY I—
HERE THEY ARE BOYS. BET SET.
LEFTY YOU'RE TO CALL THE COPS AND LOCK THE DOORS.
AN' WHEN ROWDY BLOWS HIS NOSE, DAT'S THE SIGNAL TO START A FIGHT. I GETCHA.
HURRY UP ROWDY, IT'S LATE YOU PROMISED TO DRIVE ME PAST CAROL'S HOUSE HALF AN HOUR AGO.
AW WHAT'S THE HURRY? SHE THINKS YOU'RE AT THE OFFICE
HONK! HONK!
THERE'S TH SIGNAL BOYS. START FIGHTING.
BFF! BAH!
THERE! I TOLD YOU WE SHOULDA LEFT.
DON'T GET EXCITED, PAL. THIS SORT OF THING HAPPENS EVERY NIGHT AT MIKE'S PLACE FOLLOW ME.
SLAM!
BAM
OH, NO YA DON'T!
GRAB HIM!
HELP ROWDY! HELP!
HERE COME THE COPS!
11:30! WHAT ON EARTH HAS HAPPENED TO WASH? I'LL JUST CALL HIS OFFICE AND TELL HIM NOT TO COME.
MISTA TUBBS? WHY, HE LEFT HOURS AGO MA'M. HOURS AGO!
WELL OF ALL THINGS!
BUT I WAS AN INNOCENT BYSTANDER OFFICER I KIN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING
TELL IT TO THE JUDGE
MEANWHILE:
HEY, PAL! WHY DON'T YOU JUMP OUT TH WINDOW LIKE I DID?
SOMEBODY GRABBED ME.
POLICE
OH A TTA JAM! I'LL SEN ROWDY YOU GOT ME INTO THIS MESS — YOU GOTTA EXPLAIN THINGS TO CAROL.
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!
EVERYTHING'S SET, PAL. I CALLED CAROL AND EXPLAINED THAT YOU FAILED TO COME BY TONIGHT BECAUSE YOU WERE ILL. IT GOT OVER BIG.
THANKS, ROWDY GEE! YOU'RE A REAL PAL


I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN WASH WOULD NEVER DECEIVE ME DADDY POOR DARLING! HE'S ILL I MUST SEND HIM SOME FLOWERS
THERE'S THE PHONE AGAIN
THIS IS THE POLICE DEPARTMENT MR. MIREE. IS THERE A PERSON IN YOUR EMPLOY BY THE NAME OF [illegible]?
YES WHY?
YOU'LL GET FIVE BUCKS FOR THIS JAKE
THANK YOU SIR. JUST A ROUTINE CHECK UP. WE GOT INTO A JOINT FRANK TONIGHT — WE'RE HOLDING HIM IN JAIL TILL HE SOBERS UP
NEVER SPEAK TO ME AGAIN AS LONG AS YOU LIVE.
DON'T SAY THAT HONEY PLEASE!
YOU GOTTA BELIEVE ME! I'LL PROVE YOU I'M SINCERE.
I WON'T LISTEN TO IT. DEFINITELY BELIEVED ME. EVEN AFTER YOU WERE IN JAIL YOU HAD ROWDY SPLENDIX TELL ME YOU WERE ILL
BUT THAT WAS HIS IDEA CARL EVERYTHING WAS HIS IDEA! HE GOT ME TO WORK LATE TO RIDE IN HIS CAR TO GO INTO THAT JOINT WITH HIM. OH, HONEY, YOU GOT TO BELIEVE ME!
I LOVE YOU, I ADORE YOU. THERE'S NEVER BEEN ANOTHER GIRL BUT YOU!
DEAREST ANGEL, I DO BELIEVE YOU. BUT ALWAYS REMEMBER TO BE TRUTHFUL FOR A LIE IS SOMETHING I CAN NEVER, NEVER FORGIVE
HI YA SUGAR
DON'T SUGAR ME, ROWDY SPLENDIX! WASH TOLD ME HOW YOU DRAGGED HIM OUT TO THAT HOBO DIVE AND GOT HIM INTO TROUBLE!
WHAT? HE SAID THAT ABOUT ME? WHY HE DRAGGED ME OUT. BOY IS HE A WILD INDIAN WHEN HE GETS OUT ALONE!
YOU'RE FIBBING, ROWDY SPLENDIX AND YOU KNOW IT.
SURE HONEY SURE! I FORGOT YOU TWO WERE ENGAGED I WAS JUST JOKING ALWAYS DEPEND ON OLD ROWDY TO STICK UP FOR AN OLD PAL IN TROUBLE JOAN BABY, THE BLAME'S ALL MINE.
WASH IS A GENTLEMAN AND I DON'T BELIEVE A WORD YOU SAY.
HMM. I WONDER OF COURSE I BELIEVE WASH. BUT —

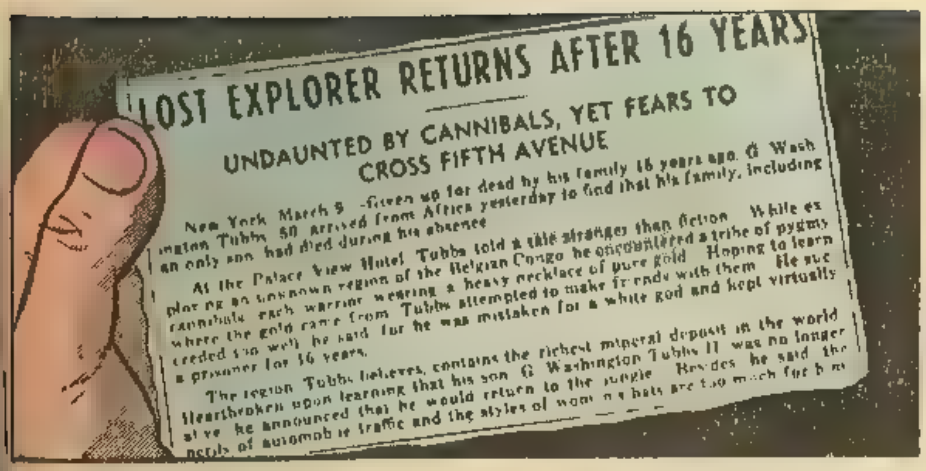
NOW'S MY CHANCE. WHILE WASH IS AT LUNCH, I CAN ALTER THOSE REPORTS HE'S PREPARING FOR OLD McKEE.
NOW WHAT THE BLAZES IS THAT POLE CAT UP TO?
WASH TUBBS
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING, ROWDY?
WASH TUBBS
OOPS! ER, JUST A CIGARET.
DERN THAT GUY! I TELL YOU, PAPA, HE'S NOT TO BE TRUSTED. HE'S DANGEROUS. HE'S LIABLE TO UPSET THE APPLE CART.
YOU LEAVE HIM TO ME, MY BOY. HE'LL NEVER INTERFERE AGAIN.
LEAVE IT TO PAPA HE'LL FIX HIM.
AH, MY DEAR BOY, I HEAR SPLENDID REPORTS OF YOU. SPLENDID! I HAVE A FINE PROMOTION FOR YOU.
YOU'LL BE ASSISTANT TO THE ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER OF THE HAIRPIN DEPARTMENT
HAIRPIN DEPARTMENT?
AZES! AT'S NO ACE FOR A D-BLOODED GUY MR. CLEVDIX.
YOU'LL LOVE IT. A MARVELOUS OPPORTUNITY, MY BOY. SIMPLY MARVELOUS! PRODUCED 40,000,000 HAIRPINS FIVE YEARS AGO AND ONLY 4,000,000 LAST YEAR. THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO THINGS IS STUPENDOUS.
BAH! NO MATTER HOW STUPENDOUS IT IS, I STILL WOULDN'T LIKE IT.
BY NEA SERVICE, INC
REG U S PAT OFF
PROMOTED TO THE HAIRPIN DEPARTMENT. HAW HAW HAW! YOU SURE GOT OLD EASY OUT OF THE WAY, PAPA.
AND NOW WE ARE FREE TO RESUME OUR CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT WASH TUBBS.
SCREDIT MY EYE! WE'LL DISGRACE THE BUM!
PRECISELY, MY DEAR BOY. WHEN CAROL WILL BREAK HER ENGAGEMENT WITH TUBBS, AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO RESUME YOUR COURTSHIP
AND MARRY MILLIONS! HOT DOG!
BY THE WAY, ROWDEN, I'VE HAD A PRIVATE DETECTIVE INVESTIGATING WASH TUBBS' BACKGROUND AND ANTECEDENTS.
I DISCOVER THAT HE'S NOTHING BUT TRASH—AN ORPHAN! WELL, YOU KNOW HOW STUCK UP OLD McKEE IS—THINKS HE'S AN ARISTOCRAT—
AH, HA! I GET THE IDEA, GUVNOR! WE'LL BRING IN WASH'S FAMILY!

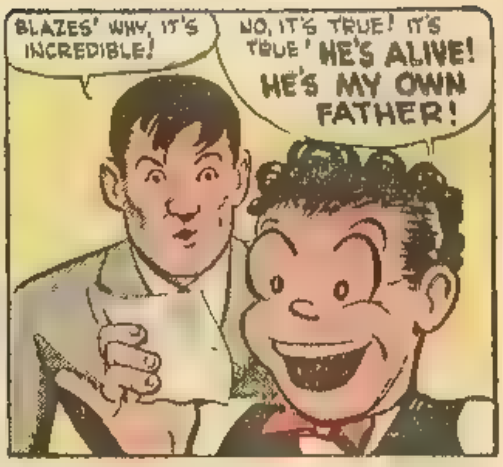
CAPTAIN EASY

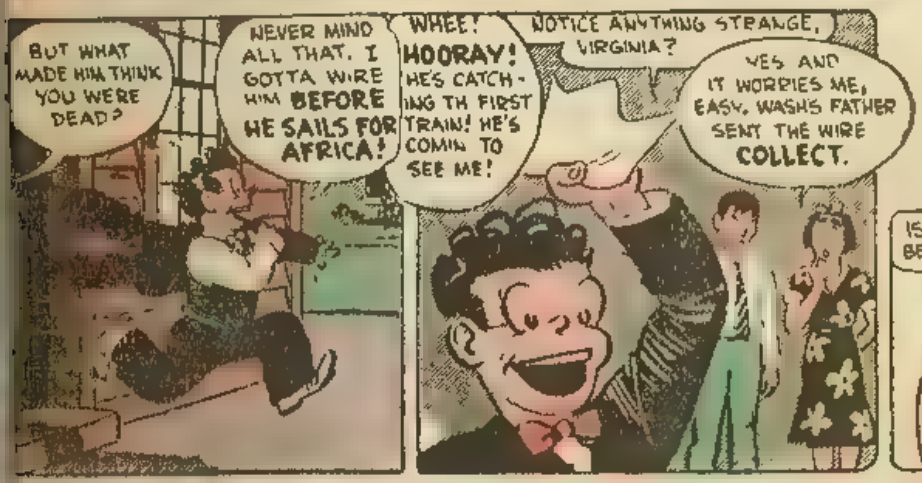
SOLDIER of FORTUNE

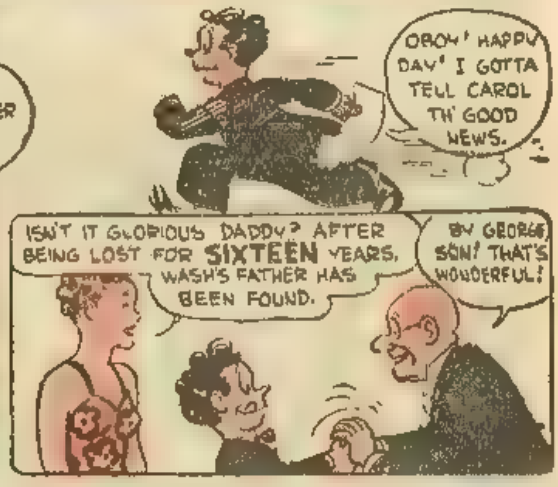
by Roy CRANE

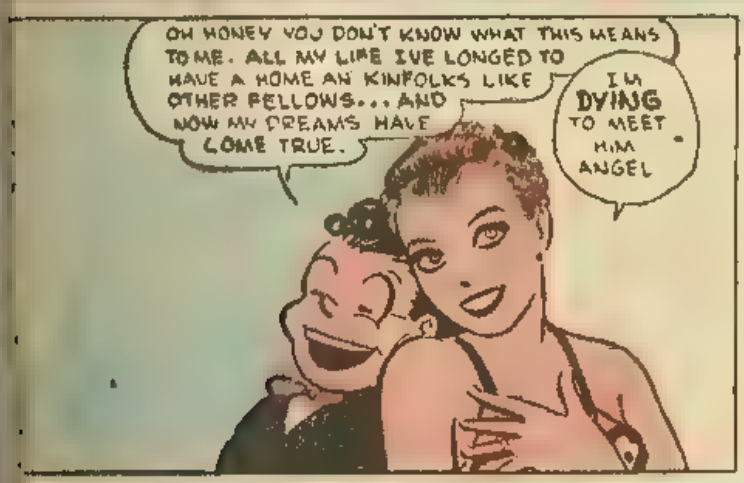
THIS IS THE PRIVATE DETECTIVE ROWDEN WHO'S BEEN INVESTIGATING WASH TUBBS' PAST
SWELL
HERE'S THE DOPE GENTS
HIS MOTHER DIED DURING HIS INFANCY. HIS FATHER, WASHINGTON TUBBS, SR., WAS POOR. HE BROUGHT THE KID TO THIS CITY AND LEFT HIM WITH A WIDOWED AUNT. WORKED AROUND FOR A WHILE, THEN WENT TO AFRICA ON A GOLD RUSH.
NEVER HEARD OF AGAIN. REPORTED TO HAVE DIED, THERE. THEN THE AUNT DIED, AND THE KID WAS LEFT TO SHIFT FOR HIMSELF AT THE AGE OF TWELVE.
WELL, ROWDEN, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE REPORT?
GIMME 48 HOURS, PAPA, AND I'LL FIND WASH'S OLD MAN ALIVE, AND AS HALE AND HEARTY AS EVER
WOW!
THERE! EVERYTHING'S SET
GOONEY! SOMEBODY SENT ME A CLIPPING FROM A NEW YORK NEWSPAPER.
HOLY SMOKE, EASY! LOOK! IT'S ABOUT MY FATHER!
HE'S ALIVE!

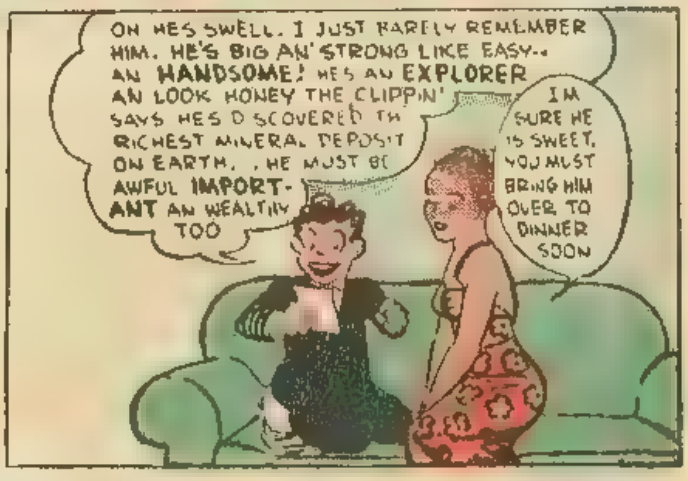

LOST EXPLORER RETURNS AFTER 16 YEARS
UNDAUNTED BY CANNIBALS, YET FEARS TO CROSS FIFTH AVENUE
New York, March 9 —Given up for dead by his family 16 years ago, G Wash
ington Tubbs, 50, arrived from Africa yesterday to find that his family, including
an only son, had died during his absence
At the Palace View Hotel Tubbs told a tale stranger than fiction While ex
plor ng an unknown region of the Belgian Congo he encountered a tribe of pygmy
cannibals each warrior wearing a heavy necklace of pure gold Hoping to learn
where the gold came from Tubbs attempted to make friends with them He suc
ceeded too well he said for he was mistaken for a white god and kept virtually
a prisoner for 16 years.
The region Tubbs believes, contains the richest mineral deposit in the world
Heartbroken upon learning that his son G Washington Tubbs II was no longer
alive he announced that he would return to the jungle Besides he said the
perils of automobile traffic and the styles of women's hats are too much for h m

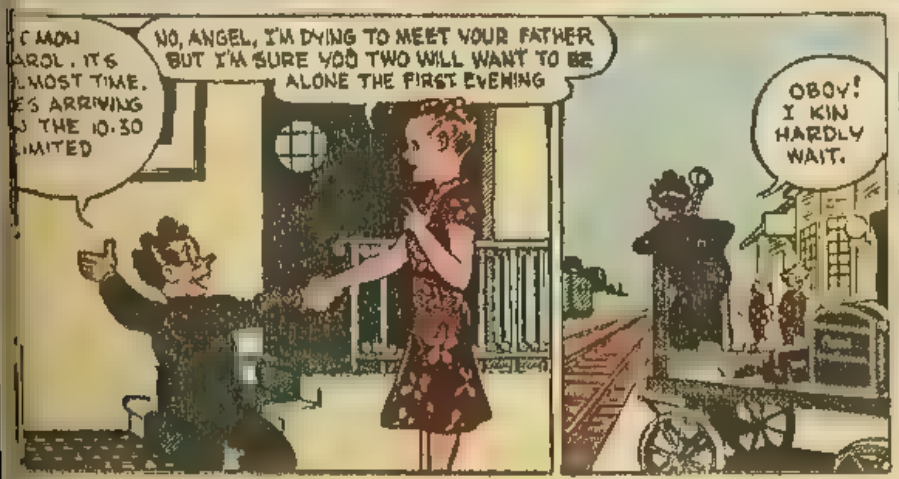

BLAZES! WHY, IT'S INCREDIBLE!
NO, IT'S TRUE! IT'S TRUE! HE'S ALIVE! HE'S MY OWN FATHER!

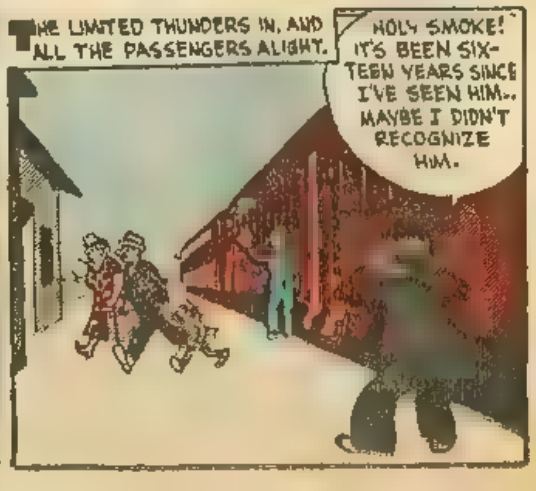

BUT WHAT MADE HIM THINK YOU WERE DEAD?
NEVER MIND ALL THAT. I GOTTA WIRE HIM BEFORE HE SAILS FOR AFRICA!
WHEE! HOORAY! HE'S CATCHING TH FIRST TRAIN! HE'S COMIN TO SEE ME!
NOTICE ANYTHING STRANGE, VIRGINIA?
YES AND IT WORRIES ME, EASY. WASH'S FATHER SENT THE WIRE COLLECT.

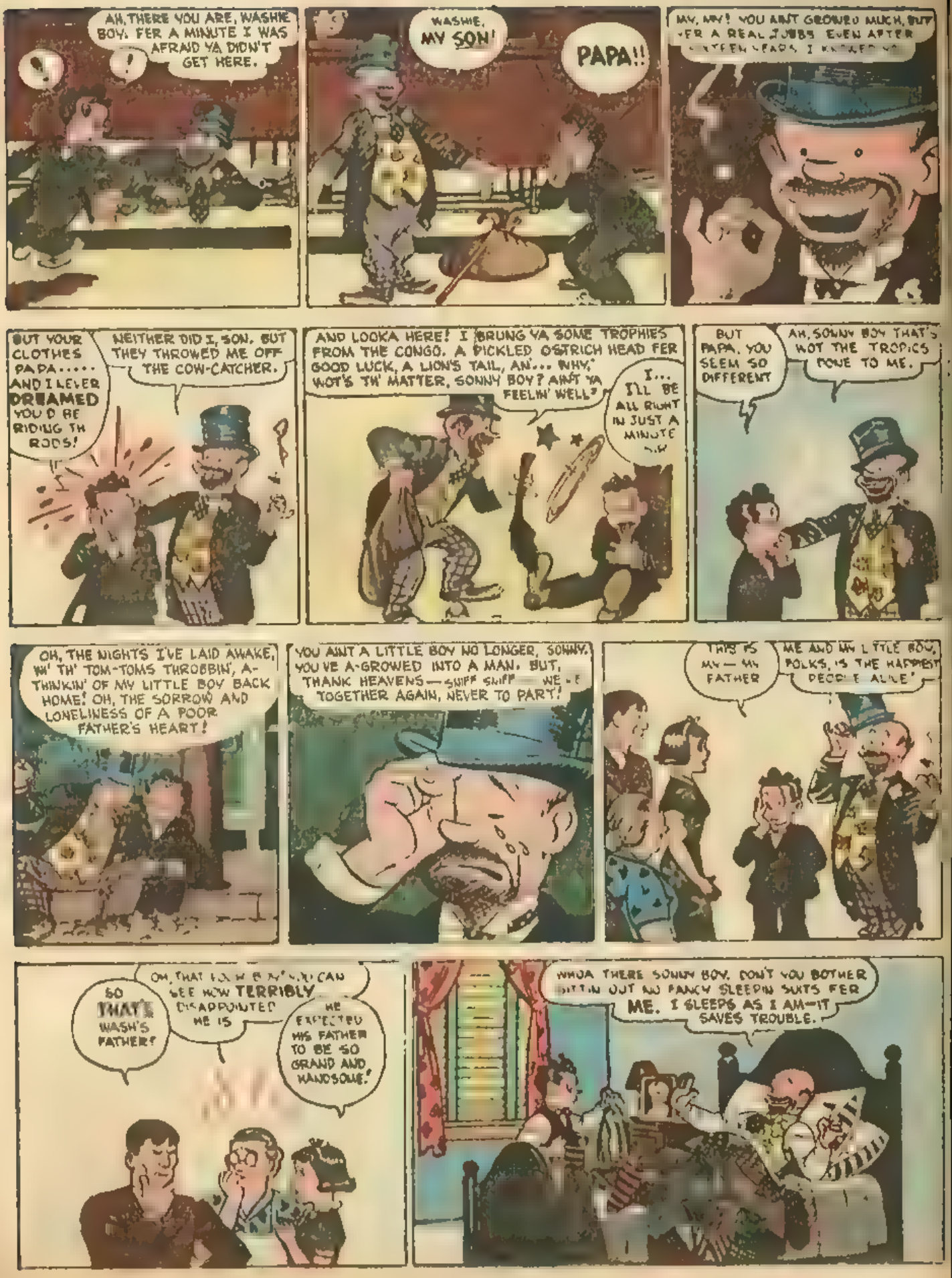

OBOY! HAPPY DAY! I GOTTA TELL CAROL TH' GOOD NEWS.
ISN'T IT GLORIOUS DADDY? AFTER BEING LOST FOR SIXTEEN YEARS, WASH'S FATHER HAS BEEN FOUND.
BY GEORGE, SON! THAT'S WONDERFUL!

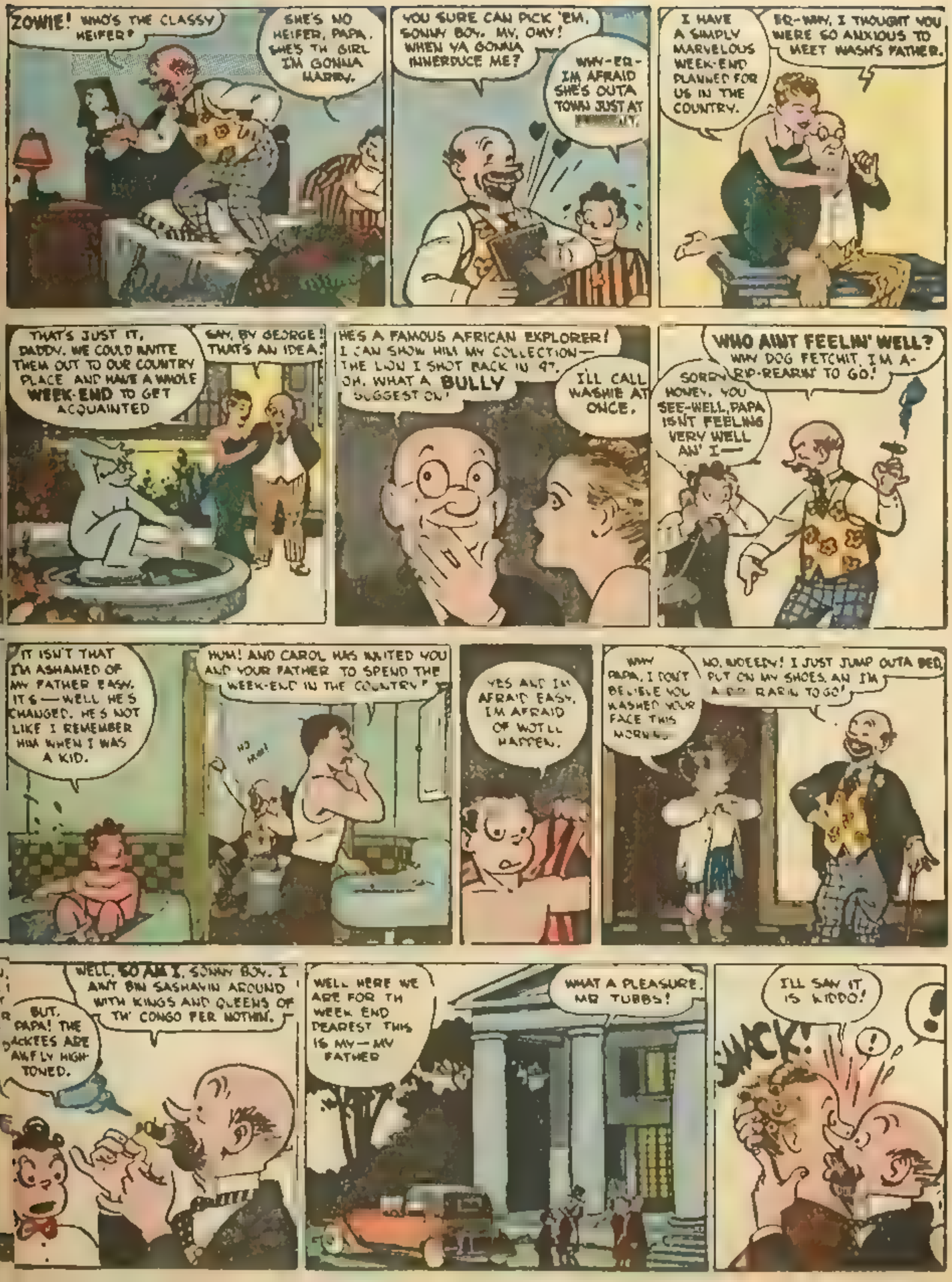

OH HONEY YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS TO ME. ALL MY LIFE I'VE LONGED TO HAVE A HOME AN KINFOLKS LIKE OTHER FELLOWS... AND NOW MY DREAMS HAVE COME TRUE.
I'M DYING TO MEET HIM ANGEL


OH HE'S SWELL. I JUST BARELY REMEMBER HIM. HE'S BIG AN' STRONG LIKE EASY.. AN HANDSOME! HE'S AN EXPLORER AN LOOK HONEY THE CLIPPIN' SAYS HE'S DISCOVERED TH RICHEST MINERAL DEPOSIT ON EARTH. HE MUST BE AWFUL IMPORTANT AN WEALTHY TOO
I'M SURE HE IS SWEET. YOU MUST BRING HIM OVER TO DINNER SOON


C'MON AROL. IT'S LMOST TIME. E'S ARRIVING THE 10:30 IMITED
NO, ANGEL, I'M DYING TO MEET YOUR FATHER BUT I'M SURE YOU TWO WILL WANT TO BE ALONE THE FIRST EVENING
OBOY! I KIN HARDLY WAIT.


THE LIMITED THUNDERS IN, AND ALL THE PASSENGERS ALIGHT.
HOLY SMOKE! IT'S BEEN SIXTEEN YEARS SINCE I'VE SEEN HIM.. MAYBE I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIM.


AH, THERE YOU ARE, WASHIE BOY. FER A MINUTE I WAS AFRAID YA DIDN'T GET HERE.
WASHIE, MY SON!
PAPA!!
MY, MY! YOU AIN'T GROWED MUCH, BUT FER A REAL JOBS EVEN AFTER
BUT YOUR CLOTHES PAPA..... AND I EVER DREAMED YOU'D BE RIDING TH RODS!
NEITHER DID I, SON. BUT THEY THROWED ME OFF THE COW-CATCHER.
AND LOOKA HERE! I BRUNG YA SOME TROPHIES FROM THE CONGO. A PICKLED OSTRICH HEAD FER GOOD LUCK, A LION'S TAIL, AN... WHY, WOT'S TH' MATTER, SONNY BOY? AIN'T YA FEELIN' WELL?
I... I'LL BE ALL RIGHT IN JUST A MINUTE NOW
BUT PAPA, YOU SEEM SO DIFFERENT
AH, SONNY BOY THAT'S WOT THE TROPICS DONE TO ME.
OH, THE NIGHTS I'VE LAID AWAKE, W' TH' TOM-TOMS THROBBIN', A-THINKIN' OF MY LITTLE BOY BACK HOME! OH, THE SORROW AND LONELINESS OF A POOR FATHER'S HEART!
YOU AIN'T A LITTLE BOY NO LONGER, SONNY. YOU'VE A-GROWED INTO A MAN. BUT, THANK HEAVENS — SNIFF SNIFF — WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN, NEVER TO PART!
THIS IS MY — MY FATHER
ME AND MY LITTLE BOY, FOLKS, IS THE HAPPIEST PEOPLE ALIVE!
SO THAT'S WASH'S FATHER?
OH, THAT POOR BOY! NOW I CAN SEE HOW TERRIBLY DISAPPOINTED HE IS
HE EXPECTED HIS FATHER TO BE SO GRAND AND HANDSOME!
WHOA THERE SONNY BOY. DON'T YOU BOTHER PUTTIN OUT NO FANCY SLEEPIN SUITS FER ME. I SLEEPS AS I AM—IT SAVES TROUBLE.


ZOWIE! WHO'S THE CLASSY HEIFER?
SHE'S NO HEIFER, PAPA. SHE'S TH GIRL I'M GONNA MARRY.
YOU SURE CAN PICK 'EM, SONNY BOY. MY, OMY! WHEN YA GONNA INNERDUCE ME?
WHY-ER-I'M AFRAID SHE'S OUTA TOWN JUST AT
I HAVE A SIMPLY MARVELOUS WEEK-END PLANNED FOR US IN THE COUNTRY.
ER-WHY, I THOUGHT YOU WERE SO ANXIOUS TO MEET WASH'S FATHER.
THAT'S JUST IT, DADDY. WE COULD INVITE THEM OUT TO OUR COUNTRY PLACE AND HAVE A WHOLE WEEK-END TO GET ACQUAINTED
GAWN, BY GEORGE! THAT'S AN IDEA!
HE'S A FAMOUS AFRICAN EXPLORER! I CAN SHOW HIM MY COLLECTION— THE LION I SHOT BACK IN 97. OH, WHAT A BULLY SUGGESTION!
I'LL CALL WASHIE AT ONCE.
WHO AIN'T FEELIN' WELL?
WHY DOG FETCHIT, I'M A-RIP-REARIN' TO GO!
SORRY HONEY. YOU SEE-WELL, PAPA ISN'T FEELING VERY WELL AN' I—
IT ISN'T THAT I'M ASHAMED OF MY FATHER EASY. IT'S—WELL HE'S CHANGED. HE'S NOT LIKE I REMEMBER HIM WHEN I WAS A KID.
HUM! AND CAROL HAS INVITED YOU AND YOUR FATHER TO SPEND THE WEEK-END IN THE COUNTRY?
HO HUM!
YES AND I'M AFRAID EASY. I'M AFRAID OF WOT'LL HAPPEN.
WHY PAPA, I DON'T BELIEVE YOU WASHED YOUR FACE THIS MORNING.
NO, NOREEN! I JUST JUMP OUTA BED, PUT ON MY SHOES, AN' I'M A-RIP-RARIN TO GO!
BUT, PAPA! THE ACKEES ARE AWFLY HIGH TONED.
WELL, SO AM I, SONNY BOY. I AIN'T BIN SASHAYIN AROUND WITH KINGS AND QUEENS OF TH' CONGO FER NOTHIN.
WELL HERE WE ARE FOR TH WEEK END DEAREST THIS IS MY—MY FATHER
WHAT A PLEASURE, MR TUBBS!
I'LL SAW IT, IS KIDDO!
SMACK!

AN' THIS MUST BE OLD MAN McKEE' HOWZA BOY, MAC?
SWOP!
CONFOUND IT' I DROPPED MY UPPER PLATE
DEAR ME! I'M AFRAID MR. TUBBS IS STANDING ON IT
HAW, HAW, HAW! KNEW I WAS CRUNCHIN' SUMPIN. IT'LL BE A GOOD JOKE ON OLD MAC IF WE HAVE STEAK PER SUPPER
PAPA!
AH, NICE LITTLE PLACE YA GOT HERE
THE CONFOUNDED IMBECILE! FIRST HE KNOCKED MY UPPER PLATE OUT, THEN HE STEPPED ON IT AND...
PLEASE DADDY, I'M SURE MR. TUBBS DIDN'T MEAN TO.
ER... SO NICE OF YOU TO COME OUT FOR THE WEEK END, MR TUBBS WONT YOU BE SEATED?
THANKS, KIDDO. I WAS JUST TELL N MY LITTLE BOY HOW LUCKY HE IS TO BE MARRYIN AN HEIRESS LIKE YOU... NOW HE WONT HAVE TO WORK FOR A LIVIN'.
OH IS THAT SO!
BY THE WAY, MAC, OLD BOY, HOW MUCH MONEY YOU REALLY GOT, ANYWAY?
WHY PAPA!
CONFOUND HIM! IT'S NONE OF HIS BUSINESS'
PLEASE DADDY. CONTROL YOUR TEMPER.
MY! MY! HE'S A TESTY OLD CODGER, AIN'T HE? I DON'T SEE HOW WASH EVER GITS ALONG WITH HIM
THE NERVE OF THAT INSOLENT BOUNDER' ASKING HOW MUCH MONEY I HAVE!
FOR WASH'S SAKE DADDY' PLEASE CONTROL YOUR TEMPER'
OH PAPA' I WAS NEVER SO MORTIFIED IN MY LIFE'
DONT YA WORRY ABOUT ME, SONNY BOY I'M GITTIN ALONG GREAT!
AH, YES, MY TROPHIES. VERY PROUD OF THEM, TUBBS. WAS LION HUNTING OVER IN AFRICA ONCE MYSELF. GREAT SPORT!
NO, NUM PRETTY TAME TO ME
SHOW HIM YOUR TROPHIES, DADDY — ANYTHING'

SIR, I BEG TO DIFFER WITH YOU. I CONSIDER LION HUNTING THE MOST THRILLING AND DANGEROUS SPORT ON EARTH. NOW, TAKE THIS MAGNIFICENT SPECIMEN... HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR MY IRON NERVE AND STEADY AIM..
POOF! HE'S OLD AN TOOTHLESS, MAC, OLD BOY. HE COULDN'T HAVE HURT A FLEA.
I'LL NOT TOLERATE HIS CONFOUNDED INSULTS ANOTHER MOMENT!
PLEASE, PAPA, PLEASE! TRY TO BE MORE TACTFUL.
GRACIOUS SAKES, SONNY BOY! WHY, WHAT HAVE I DONE?
POOR PAPA! HE'S BEEN AN EXPLORER OVER IN AFRICA SO LONG.
I UNDERSTAND, DARLING.
I'LL MAKE JUST ONE MORE EFFORT TO GET ALONG WITH THIS CONFOUNDED BOUNDER.) AHEM! ARE YOU AN ART LOVER, MR. TUBBS?
OH, YES INDEEDY!
YES INDEED! IN FACT, I CONSIDER MESELF QUITE A CONNA-SEWER.
WELL, BY GEORGE! THAT'S MARVELOUS! YOU MUST SEE MY COLLECTION. IT'S CONSIDERED ONE OF THE FINEST IN AMERICA.
THERE! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?
?
YOU SAID TO BE TACKFUL WITH TH' OLD CODGER, SONNY BOY. BUT HOW TH HECK KIN I BE TACKFUL WHEN HE ASTS ME WOT I THINK OF A MESS LIKE THIS?
!
NOW, THAT'S WOT I CALLS REAL ART!
BLONDS! BLONDS! ALL HE CARES ABOUT IS BLONDS!
I TELL YOU, CAROL, I'LL NOT PUT UP WITH THE BOUNDER ANOTHER MOMENT.
YOU'RE UPSET, DADDY DEAR. YOU'D BETTER LIE DOWN AND LET ME ENTERTAIN HIM.
PLEASE EXCUSE DADDY, MR. TUBBS— HE ISN'T FEELING VERY WELL. MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME, AND IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT JUST ASK FOR IT.
NOW, THA'S WOT I CALLS REAL HOSPITALITY, KIDDO.
YEAH, THA'S RIGHT. SEND OUT TWO CASES OF CHAMPAGNE AND A FAN DANCER.

THERE'S AN OVER-FED FAN DANCER OUTSIDE. SHE INSISTS SOMEONE SENT FOR HER. WHERE'S OLD MAN TUBBS?
HE BORROWED YOUR FOUNTAIN PEN I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE WENT, DADDY.
AH. THERE YOU ARE!
OWK!
I HEARD A THUD AND FOUND DADDY LYING ON THE FLOOR.
HOLY SMOKE! WHAT HAPPENED PAPA?
WHY, SEARCH ME, SONNY BOY, MAYBE SOMETHIN' HE ET. I WAS BUSY PUTTIN MUSTACHES ON HIS BILLBOARDS AN WASN'T WATCHIN
MUSTACHES ON MY ART TREASURES! OH OH! THIS IS TOO MUCH.
PLEASE FORGIVE PAPA MR MCKEE. HE GOT TH JUNGLE FEVER OVER IN AFRIKA AN.
POOR DADDY! WE MUST GET HIM TO BED BEFORE HE HAS A BREAK-DOWN.
LEAVE ME DO IT KIDDO. I'LL HANDLE THE OLD CODGER
SEE, THIS IS TH' MAN HE CARRIES FOLKS IN THE CONGO
OWOH! MY HEAD!
BONG!
MY STATUE! STOP! PUT ME DOWN! HELP!
LEGGO, YA DUMMY!
NOW YOU DONE IT, YOU CANTANKEROUS OLD JACK-ASS"
OH MY POOR ART TREASURES! I'M A WRECK, A HOLLOW SHELL! GET ME TO BED.
GET A DOCTOR. GET TWO DOCTORS
WHEE! HOT DOG! I FOUND WHERE THE OLD CODGER HIDES HIS CHAMPAGNE!

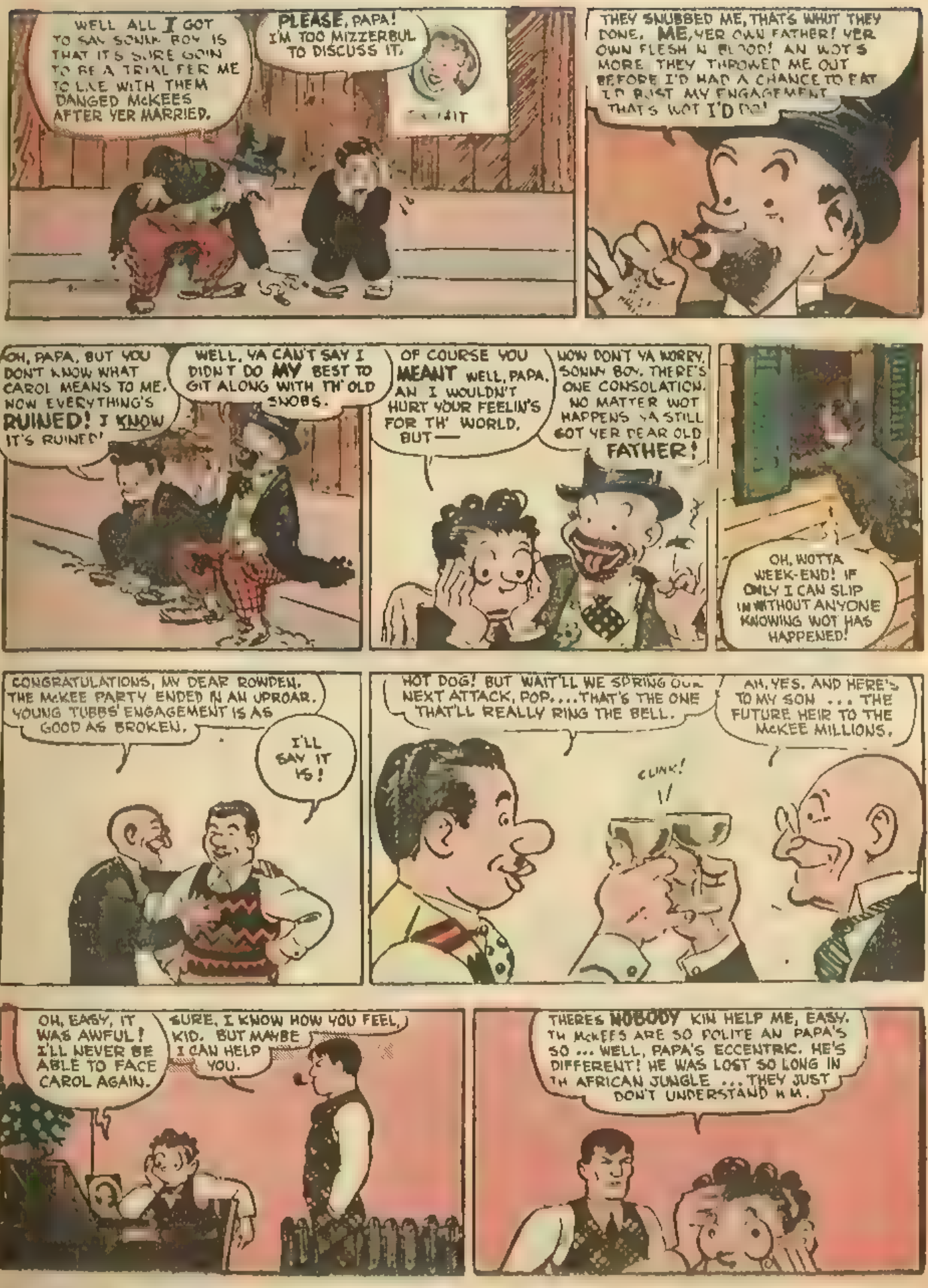
PLEASE, PAPA, CAN'T YOU SEE MR WAKER IS ON TH VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN?
HIS HEART MR TUBBS—
HAW HAW! HE'S JUST PLAIN CANTANKEROUS THAS TH TROUBLE WITH HIM!
BUT WAIT'LL SONNY BOY GITS MARRIED AN' WE MOVES IN WITH HIM— BOY, I'LL PUT AN END TO THEM SULKY TANTRUMS! YA BETCHA!
NEVER MIND THE DOCTORS. JUST LET ME DIE IN PEACE.
WHY, MAC, OLD BOY, I NEVER DREAMT YA HAD A TOM-TOM
PLEASE, MR TUBBS, I'M AFRAID DADDY'S ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN
OW! MY STUMMICK
AND IF THERE'S ANYTHING HE SIMPLY CAN'T STAND, IT'S A DRUM!
SAY, HE AIN'T NEVER SEEN A REAL ONE! COULD REALLY BEAT ONE! GIT SOME POTS AND PANS! I'M A-GOIN TO TOWN!
BOOM, BOOM, BUM!
WHEE! IT'S TH' CONGO IN ME! WHEN I GIT STARTED, SONNY BOY THERE'S NO STOPPIN ME!
BUM
PAPA, PLEASE!
CLANK KLUNK!
DANG!
YA LATTER LATTER
HOURS LATER:
HE'S LIKE A WILD MAN DADDY WASH AND I CAN'T SEEM TO DO ANY THING WITH HIM
I HAVE A PLAN WHICH I BELIEVE WILL STOP HIM KINDLY HELP ME OUT OF BED, HONEY, AND FETCH MY SHOTGUN.
DOWN IN TH' CONGO THIS GOES ON FER HOURS FOLKS. IT GITS WILDER AN' WILDER.
UM PAH!
KA-LANG!
BAM!
DANG!
NO, DADDY! PLEASE! AFTER ALL, HE'S WASH'S FATHER.
KINDLY STAND TO ONE SIDE, MY DEAR. THERE COMES A TIME WHEN HUMAN ENDURANCE REACHES AN END
BANG!
WELL, I GUESS I KIN TAKE A HINT AS WELL AS ANY-BODY. I KNOW WHEN I AIN'T WELCOME NO MORE.
AH' NOW I FEEL BETTER. MUCH BETTER JUST HELP ME BACK TO BED.
OH, CAROL, IF ONLY YOU'LL LET ME APOLOGIZE ... OR HELP.. OR ..
PLEASE, WASH, I THINK YOU'D BETTER GO NOW.

CAPTAIN EASY

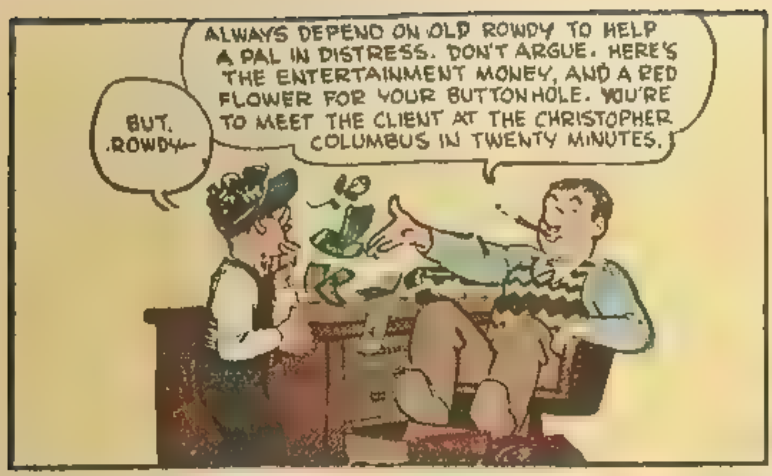
SOLDIER of FORTUNE

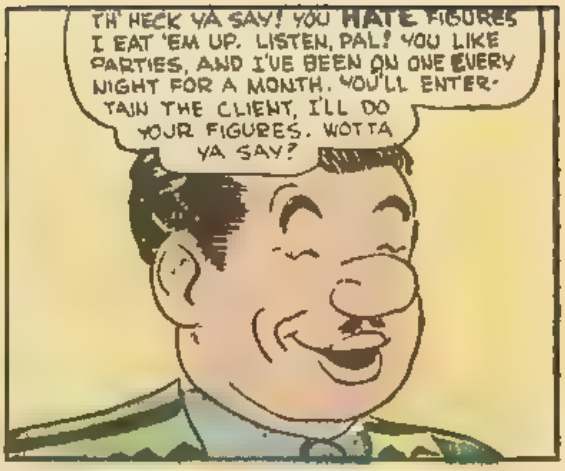
by Roy Crane

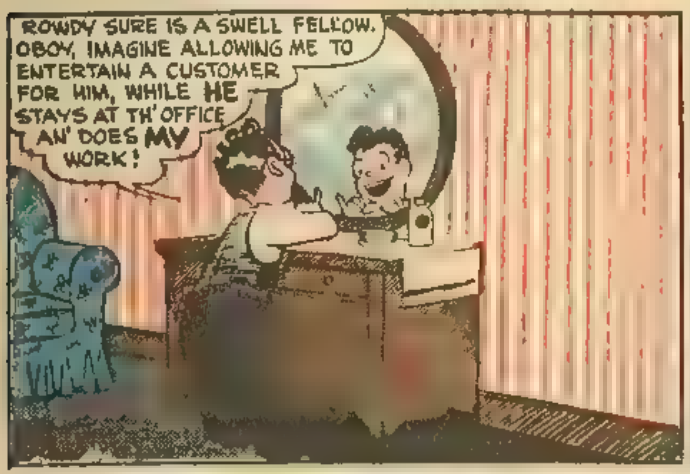
HELLO SUCKER.
HUMPH! SOME DUMP YOU'RE WORK ING IN.
WELL, HOW'S THE NIGHT CLUB BUSINESS THESE DAYS, FIFI?
ROTTEN! SAY, ROWDY, WHY DON'T YA BE A GOOD EGG FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE, AND GET ME A NIFTY JOB IN A BURLY-Q, OR SUMPIN?
OLD TIMES' SAKE? SAY, THE OLD MAN IS STILL GROANING ABOUT THAT $25,000 YOU HOOKED ME FOR IN A BREACH OF PROMISE SUIT.
OH, WELL, YOU KNOW HOW IT IS. YOU WERE A SAP, HONEY, AND A GAL HAS GOTTA MAKE A LIVIN', HASN'T SHE?
STOP CALLING ME HONEY! LISTEN, FIFI... YOU'RE SMART. YOU GOT BRAINS I COULD TURN A THOUSAND BUCKS YOUR WAY, IF...
WHO'S THAT BIG GORILLA EYEING ME?
OH, THAT'S JUST MY BOY FRIEND. WHAT WAS YOU SAYIN ABOUT A THOUSAND BUCKS, HONEY?
HI-YA GUVNOR YOU REMEMBER F.F. LA PEARL DONCHA?
WHY— WHY, SHE'S THE PERSON WHO HOOKED YOU IN THAT BREACH OF PROMISE SUIT!
AH, WELL! NO HARD FEELINGS, EH KIDDO?
ER, I BELIEVE IVE READ ABOUT MR. COKER IN THE PAPERS.
AND THIS IS HER MANAGER, MR. BOLITO COKER.
HI-YA, PAL.
MERCY SAKES, ROWDEN! DO YOU REALIZE THAT THESE ARE NOTORIOUS CHARACTERS AROUND TOWN?
SURE THING, GUVNOR, AND PLENTY SMART.
BUT IF FIFI COULD TAKE A SMART GUY LIKE ME OVER FOR $25,000, THINK WHAT SHE COULD DO TO A SAP LIKE WASH TUBBS
RESULTS, OR YOUR MONEY BACK. THAT'S OUR MOTTO.
I'LL SAY! IF YA WANNA GET THIS TUBBS KID IN A JAM, JUST LEAVE IT TO FIFI.

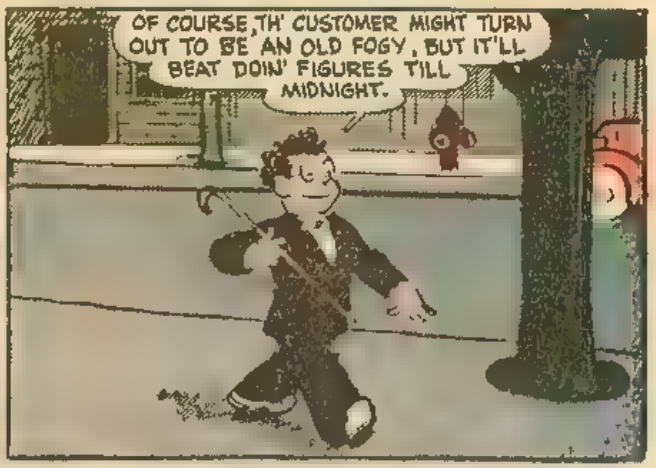

WELL ALL I GOT TO SAY SONNY BOY IS THAT IT'S SURE GOIN TO BE A TRIAL FER ME TO LIVE WITH THEM DANGED McKEES AFTER YER MARRIED.
PLEASE, PAPA! I'M TOO MIZZERBUL TO DISCUSS IT.
THEY SNUBBED ME, THAT'S WHUT THEY DONE. ME, YER OWN FATHER! YER OWN FLESH N BLOOD! AN WOT'S MORE THEY THROWED ME OUT BEFORE I'D HAD A CHANCE TO EAT I'D BUST MY ENGAGEMENT. THAT'S WOT I'D DO!
OH, PAPA, BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT CAROL MEANS TO ME. NOW EVERYTHING'S RUINED! I KNOW IT'S RUINED!
WELL, YA CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T DO MY BEST TO GIT ALONG WITH TH' OLD SNOBS.
OF COURSE YOU MEANT WELL, PAPA. AN I WOULDN'T HURT YOUR FEELIN'S FOR TH' WORLD, BUT—
NOW DON'T YA WORRY, SONNY BOY. THERE'S ONE CONSOLATION. NO MATTER WOT HAPPENS YA STILL GOT YER DEAR OLD FATHER!
OH, WOTTA WEEK-END! IF ONLY I CAN SLIP IN WITHOUT ANYONE KNOWING WOT HAS HAPPENED!
CONGRATULATIONS, MY DEAR ROWDEN. THE McKEE PARTY ENDED IN AN UPROAR. YOUNG TUBBS' ENGAGEMENT IS AS GOOD AS BROKEN.
I'LL SAY IT IS!
HOT DOG! BUT WAIT'LL WE SPRING OUR NEXT ATTACK, POP.... THAT'S THE ONE THAT'LL REALLY RING THE BELL.
AH, YES. AND HERE'S TO MY SON ... THE FUTURE HEIR TO THE McKEE MILLIONS.
CLINK!
OH, EASY, IT WAS AWFUL! I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FACE CAROL AGAIN.
SURE, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, KID. BUT MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU.
THERES NOBODY KIN HELP ME, EASY. TH McKEES ARE SO POLITE AN PAPA'S SO ... WELL, PAPA'S ECCENTRIC. HE'S DIFFERENT! HE WAS LOST SO LONG IN TH AFRICAN JUNGLE ... THEY JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND H M.

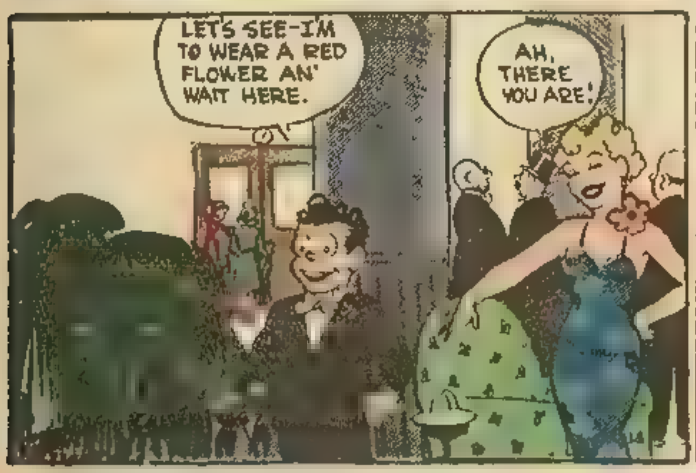
BUT JUST BECAUSE TH' McKEES DON'T LIKE HIM, I CAN'T GO BACK ON MY OWN FATHER, CAN I? MY GOSH, NO! WHY, NO MATTER WHAT PAPA DOES, I'M NOT ASHAMED!
OF COURSE NOT, LADDY. YOU'RE FINE AND LOYAL YOU'RE SWELL
BUT IT'S TOUGH, EASY. OH BUT IT'S TOUGH! ALL MY LIFE I'VE LONGED FOR A FATHER AN' MOTHER LIKE OTHER KIDS HAVE. ALL MY LIFE I'VE DREAMED OF MARRYIN' A GIRL LIKE CAROL. NOW I GOT A FATHER.. .I GOT A GIRL.... BUT THEY DON'T MIX!
HAVE A DRINK, MR. TUBBS?
OMY, YES! YES INDEEDY!
MUST BE FASCINATING, SOUTH AFRICA. ALWAYS WANTED TO GO THERE MYSELF, AND MAKE THE TRAIN TRIP FROM CAPETOWN TO MADAGASCAR. SUPPOSE YOU'VE DONE IT MANY TIMES.
YAS, YAS. READ IT LIKE A BOOK.
HEAR YOU CAN SHOOT TIGERS FROM THE TRAIN WINDOWS.
OH, SURE, SURE. I'VE SHOT 'EM BY THE HUNDREDS. LIONS, TOO. GREAT TRIP.
HA, I KNEW IT! HE'S A PHONY!! HE'S NEVER BEEN TO AFRICA, OR HE'D KNOW THERE ARE NO TIGERS THERE, AND NO RAILROAD ACROSS THE INDIAN OCEAN TO MADAGASCAR. GOT HIS FINGERPRINTS ON THE GLASS, TOO.
HOT DOG! NO MORE WORK TODAY. ALL I GOTTA DO IS ENTERTAIN A CLIENT.
YEAH! PRETTY SOFT FOR SOME PEOPLE. LOOKIT ALL TH WORK THEY DUMPED ONTO ME!
AW, THAT'S TOUGH! GEE, THAT'S TOUGH! TELL YA WOT, PAL — I'LL TRADE JOBS.
OH, NO! I DON'T MIND REALLY I DON'T.

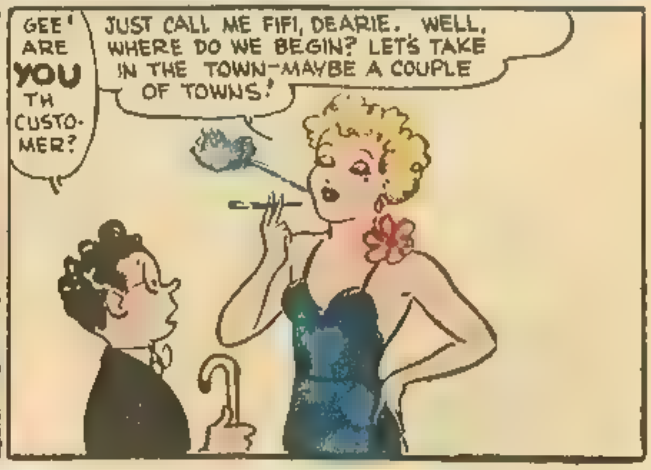

ALWAYS DEPEND ON OLD ROWDY TO HELP A PAL IN DISTRESS. DON'T ARGUE. HERE'S THE ENTERTAINMENT MONEY, AND A RED FLOWER FOR YOUR BUTTONHOLE. YOU'RE TO MEET THE CLIENT AT THE CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS IN TWENTY MINUTES.
BUT, ROWDY—

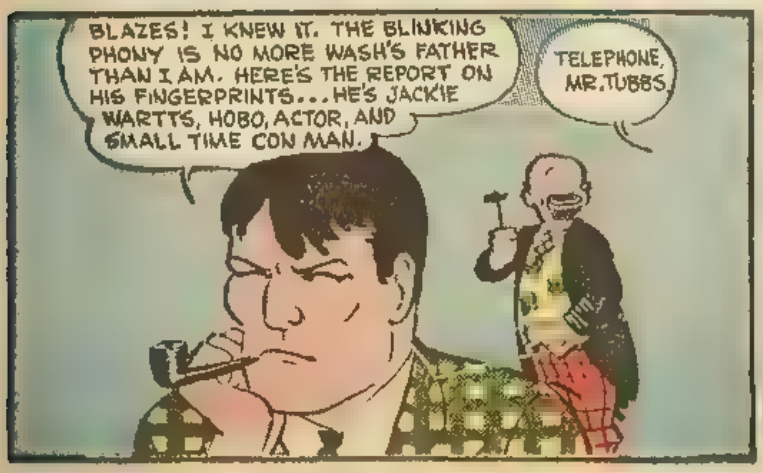

TH' HECK YA SAY! YOU HATE FIGURES I EAT 'EM UP. LISTEN, PAL! YOU LIKE PARTIES, AND I'VE BEEN ON ONE EVERY NIGHT FOR A MONTH. YOU'LL ENTERTAIN THE CLIENT, I'LL DO YOUR FIGURES. WOTTA YA SAY?


ROWDY SURE IS A SWELL FELLOW. OBOY, IMAGINE ALLOWING ME TO ENTERTAIN A CUSTOMER FOR HIM, WHILE HE STAYS AT TH' OFFICE AN' DOES MY WORK!


OF COURSE, TH' CUSTOMER MIGHT TURN OUT TO BE AN OLD FOGY, BUT IT'LL BEAT DOIN' FIGURES TILL MIDNIGHT.


LET'S SEE—I'M TO WEAR A RED FLOWER AN' WAIT HERE.
AH, THERE YOU ARE!

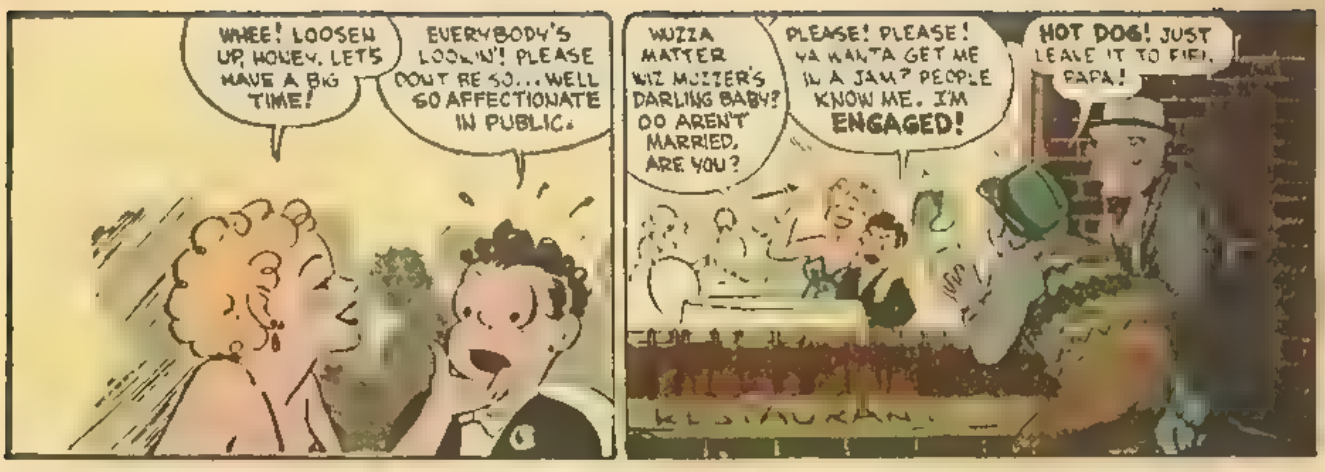

GEE! ARE YOU TH' CUSTOMER?
JUST CALL ME FIFI, DEARIE. WELL, WHERE DO WE BEGIN? LET'S TAKE IN THE TOWN—MAYBE A COUPLE OF TOWNS!

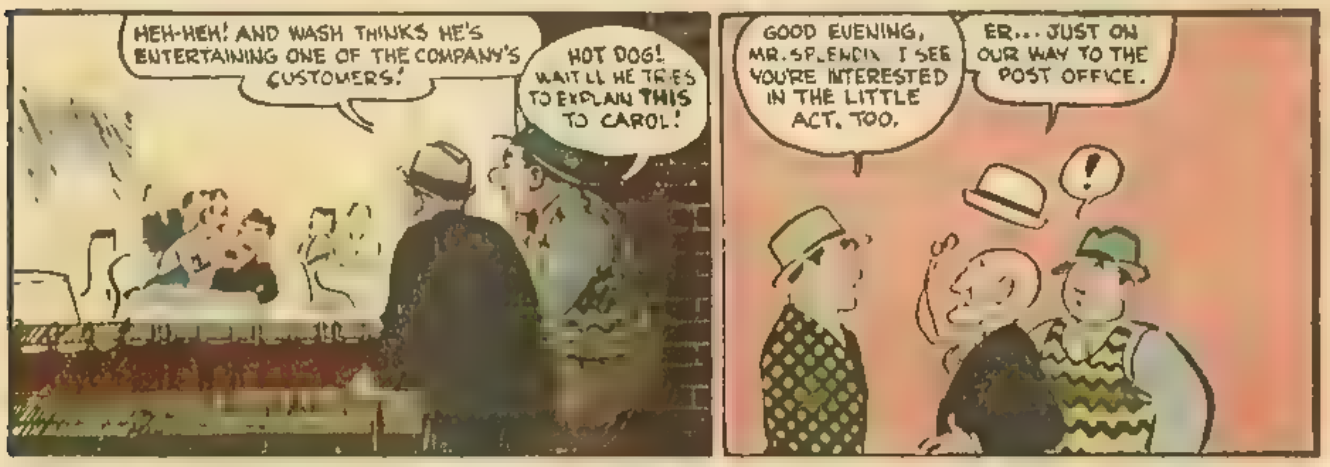

BLAZES! I KNEW IT. THE BLINKING PHONY IS NO MORE WASH'S FATHER THAN I AM. HERE'S THE REPORT ON HIS FINGERPRINTS... HE'S JACKIE WARTTS, HOBO, ACTOR, AND SMALL TIME CON MAN.
TELEPHONE, MR. TUBBS.

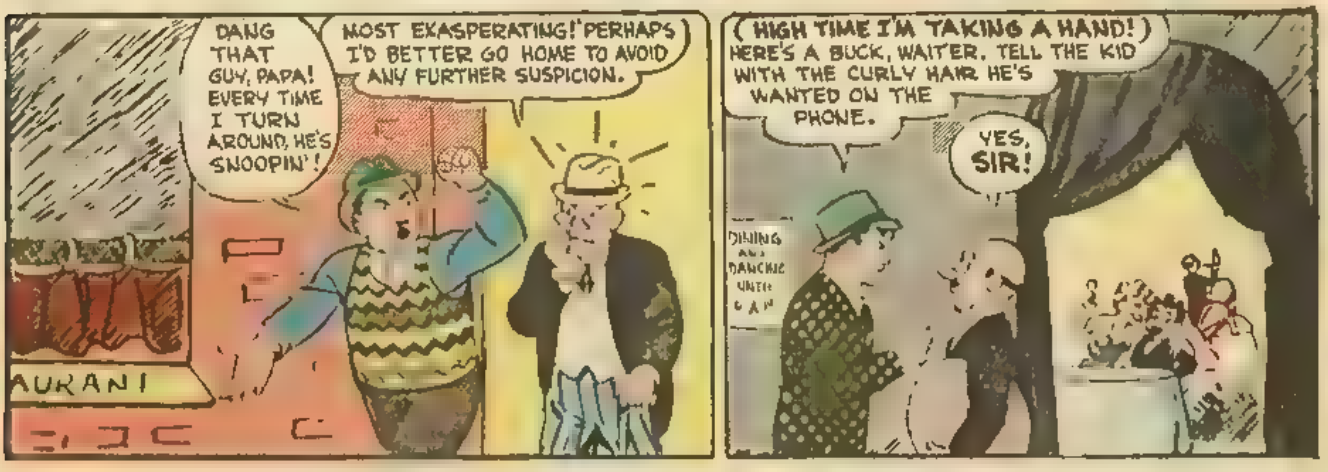
LUCKY THERE'S AN EXTENSION UPSTAIRS.
MR. G. WASHINGTON TUBBS, SENIOR, SPEAKING.
AH, HELLO, TUBBS, OLD MAN. THIS IS SPLENDIX—I R SPLENDIX. NICE WORK YOU'VE BEEN DOING LATELY. VERY NICE.

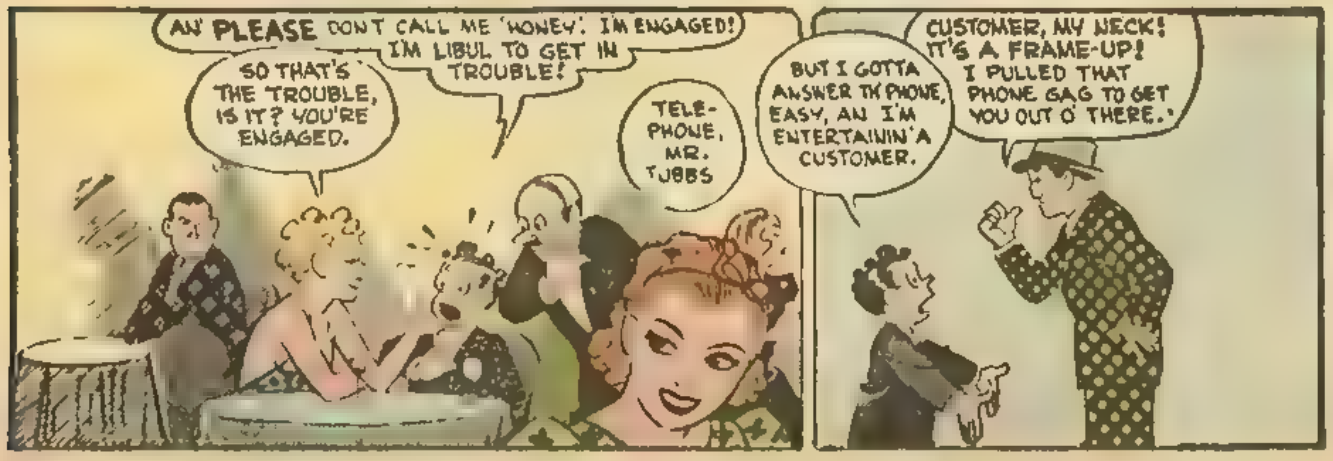
TONIGHT WE REALLY GO TO TOWN. THIS IS THE PAY-OFF. YES, THAT'S THE IDEA. RUN OVER TO THE McKEES, MAKE MATTERS WORSE
I GUESS I'LL GO FOR A LITTLE STROLL.
WHERE'S
SINCE RETURNING HOME, CAROL, BUT DESPITE THAT, I CAN'T FORGET HOW
SOUTH AMERICA.
IF ONLY HIS FATHER HADN'T ARRIVED!
HOG
OH DADDY! BUT WHAT'LL WE DO?
ONE
NEVER
A DATE
A DATE
ING ABOUT YOU.
YOU'RE JUST THE KIND OF A MAN THAT I NEED IN MY COMPANY, TUBBS. DYNAMIC PERSONALITY!
NOT INTERESTED OLD BOY I'VE RETIRED
A HUNDRED!
AFRICA
OR BET

NOT ON YER LIFE. YOU GOT MILLIONS MAC AN MY SON IS MARRYIN YOUR DAUGHTER..... SO WHY SHOULD I WORK?
I KNOWS A GOOD THING WHEN I SEES IT. JUST LEAVE ME LIVE IN THE LAP O LUXURY WITH YOU AN' CAROL AN' SONNY BOY, AN' THA'S ALL I ASKS... EXCEPT SPENDIN MONEY, OF COURSE, AN' A FLASHY ROADSTER OR TWO.
WHY OF ALL THE IMPU-DENCE!
JUST BECAUSE MY DAUGHTER IS MARRYING YOUR SON, YOU CONFOUNDED LOAFER, DON'T THINK THAT YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE IN THE LAP OF LUXURY!
OH, IS THAT SO?
YES, THAT'S SO!
TELEPHONE DADDY
WHAT'S WRONG NOW, I WONDER? HALLO!
I R SPLENDID SPEAKING A FINE MESS J.P.! A FINE MESS!! THAT CUSTOMER FROM ERIE IS IN TOWN, AND MAD AS HOPS. INSTEAD OF ENTERTAINING HIM WASH TUBBS IS OUT ENTERTAINING THAT BLONDE AGAIN.
EH, A BLONDE? WHAT BLONDE?
WHY THE ONE HE GOES WITH! ER... PERHAPS I SHOULDN'T HAVE MENTIONED IT, OLD BOY. THOUGHT YOU AND CAROL KNEW. ANYWAY, HE LEFT THE CUSTOMER FLAT.
ATTA BOY, GUVNOR.
A BLONDE! MY STARS! WHAT'S COME OVER THE BOY?
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
GHUCKS HONEY, ALL US TUBBSES ARE THAT WAY. FICKLE TO THE CORE
GEE! I NEVER DREAMED WHEN BOSS ASK ME TO ENTERTAIN ONE OF THE CUSTOMERS THAT SHE'D BE A GAL.
NEVER BE SORRY KIDDO I'M A FRIZZLE-HEADED BLONDE, AND SAID TO BE WONDERFUL COMPANY HEY, WAITER BRING ON THE CHAMPAGNE. ME AND MY BOY FRIEND WANTA CELEBRATE!
MY STARS! ISN'T THAT WASH TUBBS?
IMAGINE! AND HE'S ENGAGED TO CAROL McKEE!


WHEE! LOOSEN UP, HONEY. LET'S HAVE A BIG TIME!
EVERYBODY'S LOOKIN'! PLEASE DON'T BE SO... WELL SO AFFECTIONATE IN PUBLIC.
WUZZA MATTER WIZ MUZZER'S DARLING BABY? DO AREN'T MARRIED, ARE YOU?
PLEASE! PLEASE! YA WANTA GET ME IN A JAM? PEOPLE KNOW ME. I'M ENGAGED!
HOT DOG! JUST LEAVE IT TO ME, PAPA!


HEH-HEH! AND WASH THINKS HE'S ENTERTAINING ONE OF THE COMPANY'S CUSTOMERS!
HOT DOG! WAIT'LL HE TRIES TO EXPLAIN THIS TO CAROL!
GOOD EVENING, MR. SPLENDID. I SEE YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THE LITTLE ACT, TOO.
ER... JUST ON OUR WAY TO THE POST OFFICE.


DANG THAT GUY, PAPA! EVERY TIME I TURN AROUND, HE'S SNOOPIN'!
MOST EXASPERATING! PERHAPS I'D BETTER GO HOME TO AVOID ANY FURTHER SUSPICION.
AURANT
(HIGH TIME I'M TAKING A HAND!)
HERE'S A BUCK, WAITER. TELL THE KID WITH THE CURLY HAIR HE'S WANTED ON THE PHONE.
YES, SIR!
DINING AND DANCING UNTIL 4 A.M.

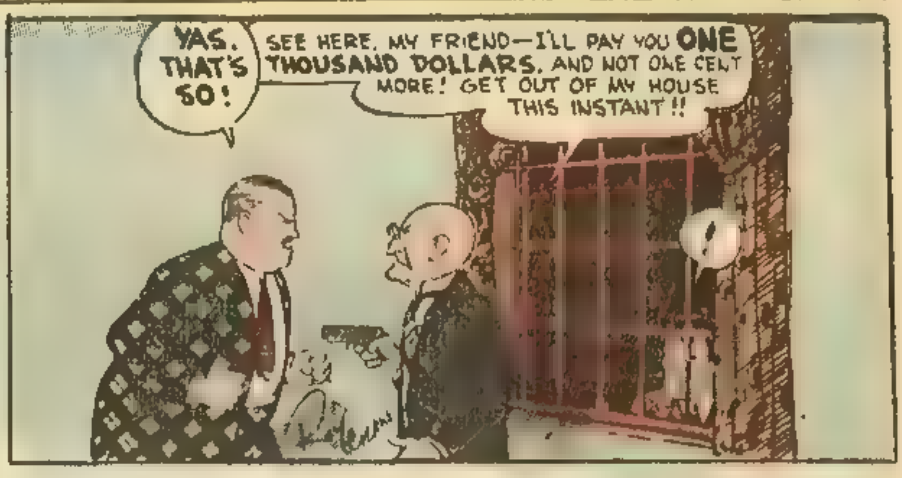

AN' PLEASE DON'T CALL ME 'HONEY'. I'M ENGAGED!
I'M LIBUL TO GET IN TROUBLE!
SO THAT'S THE TROUBLE, IS IT? YOU'RE ENGAGED.
TELE-PHONE, MR. TUBBS
BUT I GOTTA ANSWER TH' PHONE, EASY, AN I'M ENTERTAININ' A CUSTOMER.
CUSTOMER, MY NECK! IT'S A FRAME-UP! I PULLED THAT PHONE GAG TO GET YOU OUT O' THERE.

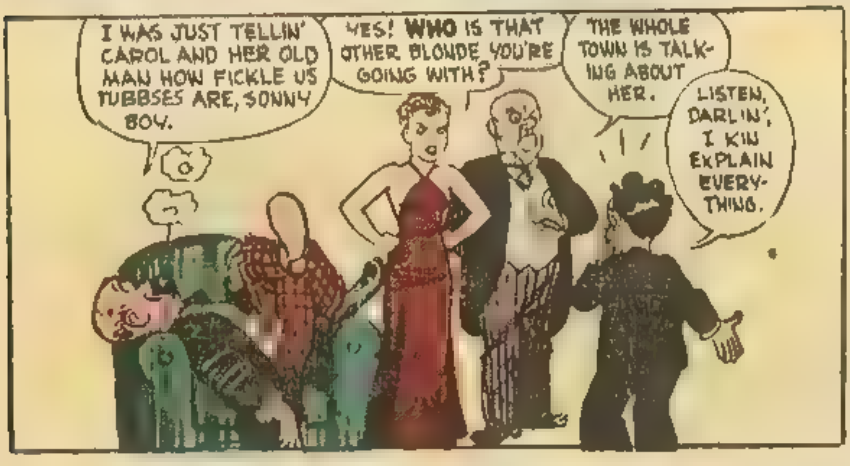
NOW I GET T WUGGS. NOW I KNOW WHY ROWDY SPLENDIX HIRED US TO GET TUBBS IN A JAM. THE KID'S ENGAGED TO CAROL McKEE THE HEIRESS. ROWDY WANTS US TO BUST UP THE ROMANCE SO HE CAN MARRY THE McKEE MILLIONS!
WOW!
WHY, THE DIRTY CHEAP-SKATE! WE'LL GET MILLIONS AND WE'LL GET A MEASLY ONE GRAND!
DON'T WORRY SISTER WE'LL GOUGE HIM FOR... HEY! WHO'S TH NEW GUY AT THE TABLE?
MY FRIEND, MR. TUBBS, WAS CALLED OUT OF TOWN ON BUSINESS. HE ASKED ME TO DO HIS ENTERTAINING.
OH, IS ZAT SO?
NOW JUST WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA O' YOU TRYING TO BUST UP HIS ENGAGEMENT WITH CAROL McKEE, SISTER?
YOU BUM! YOU FOUR-FLUSHER! IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
HE CAN'T THROW ME! CALL A TAXI!
GET ME ONE, TOO. I'LL SEE OLD SPLENDIX ABOUT THIS!
NEVER MIND THE FIRST CAB, BUD. QUICK! FOLLOW THE SECOND ONE WITH THE MAN IN IT!
SO HE WENT TO OLD SPLENDIX, EH?
WELL MR SPLENDIX YOU'RE TRYING TO BUST UP THE WASH TUBBS-CAROL McKEE ROMANCE SO YER OWN KID CAN MARRY THE McKEE MILLIONS, EH?
PRE-POSTEROUS! RIDICULOUS!
THA'S WHAT YOU SAYS, BUD! THE FACTS ARE PLAIN AS DAY. YOU HIRED ME AN' FIFI TO RUIN THIS TUBBS KID. ALL WE'LL GET IS A THOUSAND BUCKS, WHILE YOUR KID'LL GET MILLIONS!

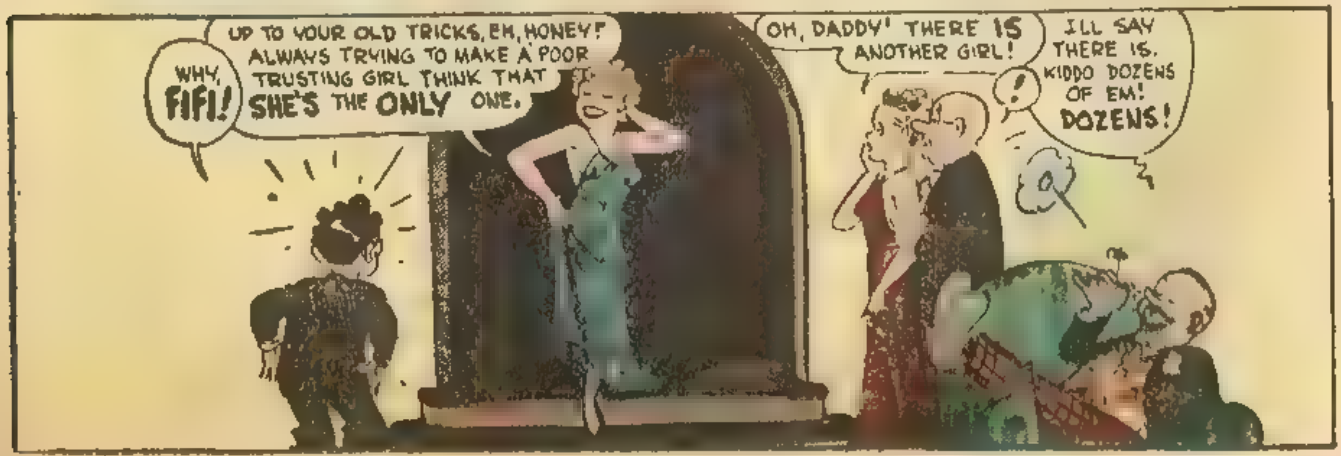
CAPTAIN EASY

SOLDIER of FORTUNE

by Roy CRANE

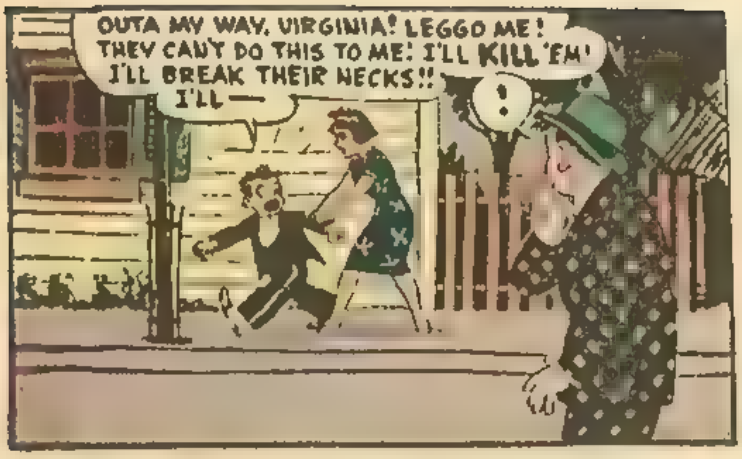



I WAS JUST TELLIN' CAROL AND HER OLD MAN HOW FICKLE US TUBBSES ARE, SONNY BOY.
YES! WHO IS THAT OTHER BLONDE YOU'RE GOING WITH?
THE WHOLE TOWN IS TALKING ABOUT HER.
LISTEN, DARLIN', I KIN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING.


UP TO YOUR OLD TRICKS, EH, HONEY? ALWAYS TRYING TO MAKE A POOR TRUSTING GIRL THINK THAT SHE'S THE ONLY ONE.
WHY, FIFI!
OH, DADDY! THERE IS ANOTHER GIRL!
I'LL SAY THERE IS, KIDDO DOZENS OF EM! DOZENS!

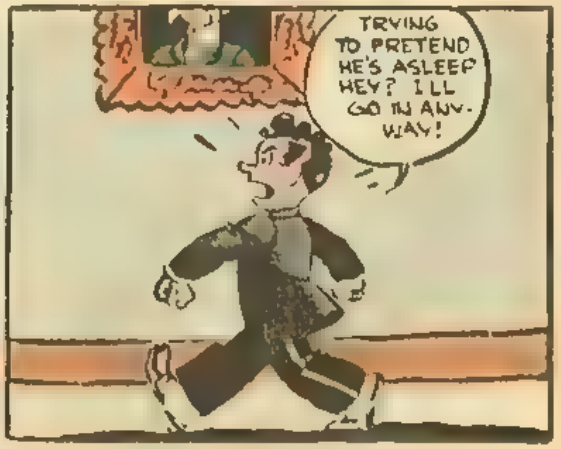
HONEST TO GLORY, CAROL, I NEVER SAW THIS DAME UNTIL TONIGHT! SHE MUST BE CRAZY! SHE'S MAD! SHE'S INSANE!
YEAH. I WAS CRAZY TO FALL FOR YOUR LINE, YOU ONLY-TONGUED FORTUNE HUNTER.
YOU AND THAT LAZY, GOOD-FOR-NOTHING FATHER... YOU'RE JUST ALIKE!
YOU GOTTA BELIEVE ME, CAROL!
I'M TRYING SO HARD, WASH. BUT I—I WISH TO BE ALONE.
BUT, MR. McKEE...
I THINK MY DAUGHTER HAS MADE HERSELF CLEAR, YOUNG MAN. GET OUT!
RUINED! RUINED! RUINED!!
CAROL'S SUCH A PEACH, WASH— OH, I'M SURE SHE'LL BELIEVE YOU!
NO. THIS IS TH' END, VIRGINIA.
EVERYTHING I DO IS WRONG! I'M RUINED! I'M THRU! I'LL GO TO CHINA, OR TIMBUKTU! I'LL BE A HERMIT!
I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE AGAIN AS LONG AS I LIVE!
OH, MOTHER! HE'S SO UNHAPPY!
POOR BOY! IT'S TIME HE'S LEARNING THE TRUTH.
THERE, THERE, HONEY! EASY SAID TO SAY NOTHING UNTIL HE CAN PROVE EVERYTHING, BUT—
YOU SEE, ROWDY SPLENDIX WANTS TO MARRY THE McKEE MILLIONS. THIS IS JUST ANOTHER DIRTY, LOW-DOWN TRICK OF THE SPLENDIXES TO CAUSE CAROL TO BREAK OFF YOUR ENGAGEMENT THE BLONDE'S A PHONY, AND SO IS YOUR "FATHER"! AND....
WHAT!

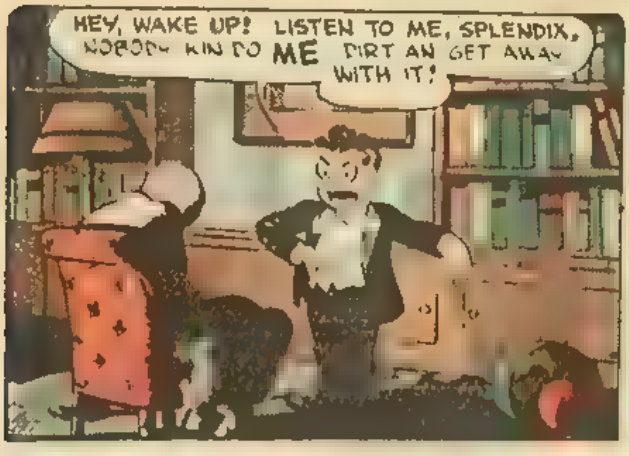
CHEER UP, HONEY. EVERYTHING WILL COME OUT ALL RIGHT. IT'S JUST A SNEAKING, LOW-DOWN PLOT OF THE SPLENDIXES TO BREAK YOUR ENGAGEMENT WITH CAROL McKEE.
AND THIS MAN IS NO MORE YOUR FATHER THAN I AM!
?
WHY, LOOK! HERE'S THE REPORT EASY GOT ON HIS FINGERPRINTS. HIS NAME'S WARTTS-NOT TUBBS. HE'S A TRAMP! A FAKE! HE WAS HIRED BY THE SPLENDIXES TO RUIN YOU!
AND SO WAS THAT BLONDINED FAN DANCER. THE SPLENDIXES ARE BEHIND EVERYTHING! IF ONLY EASY CAN PROVE—
YOU MUSTN'T JUST SIT THERE AND GRIEVE, THOUGH WASHIE. SAY SOMETHING!
OH, MOTHER, I HOPE WE HAVEN'T MADE A MISTAKE IN TELLING HIM. THERE'S SUCH A STRANGE, WILD GLITTER IN HIS EYE.
DON'T LET THAT BOY OUT OF YOUR SIGHT, VIRGINIA. MY LAND! NO TELLING WHAT HE'S LIABLE TO DO!
HA! NO WONDER HE DIDN'T SEEM NATURAL... HE WASN'T MY FATHER, AFTER ALL.
BUT PLEASE DON'T TAKE IT SO HARD, WASHIE.
EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT.
THEY LIED! THEY TRICKED ME! I THOUGHT MR. SPLENDIX AN' ROWDY WERE MY FRIENDS, AN' THEY STABBED ME IN TH' BACK!
YOU'RE SHOUTING, DEAR.
YOU'RE EXCITED!
WHY SHOULDN'T I GET EXCITED AND SHOUT? THEY RUINED ME! THEY RUINED MY LIFE—MY CAREER AN' EVERYTHING!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
OUTA MY WAY! I'LL KILL TH' DOUBLE-CROSSIN', SCHEMIN' POLE-CATS!
HEAVENS, MOTHER! I'M AFRAID HE MEANS IT!
CATCH HIM, VIRGINIA! HOLD HIM!

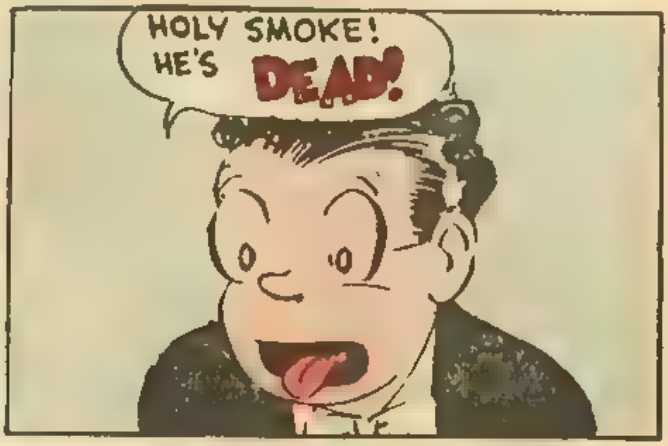

OUTA MY WAY, VIRGINIA! LEGGO ME! THEY CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! I'LL KILL 'EM! I'LL BREAK THEIR NECKS!! I'LL —
!

WASH IS TERRIBLY UPSET, CLANCY. WE'RE AFRAID HE'LL GET INTO TROUBLE.
HE'S LOST HIS HEAD! HE'S THREATENING TO KILL THE SPLENDIXES, AND ALL SORTS OF THINGS.
LEAVE IT TO ME, MRS GREY. I'LL FIND THE LAD AND HAVE A TALK WITH M

OPEN THE DOOR, DERN YOU! OPEN UP! I SEE YOU IN THERE!


TRYING TO PRETEND HE'S ASLEEP HEY? I'LL GO IN ANY WAY!


HEY, WAKE UP! LISTEN TO ME, SPLENDIX, NOBODY KIN DO ME DIRT AN GET AWAY WITH IT!


HOLY SMOKE! HE'S DEAD!

THIS PISTOL WAS ON TH' FLOOR! THERE'S BIN A FIGHT!!

IF ANYBODY FINDS OUT THAT I'VE BEEN HERE — OH, MY GOSH! WHAT'S THAT?
DING-A-LING!

HOLY SMOKE! IT'S TH' POLICE!
IF THEY FIND ME HERE WITH OLD MAN SPLENDIX MURDERED, THEY'LL BELIEVE I DID IT!
QUICK! I GOTTA GET OUTA HERE!
HEY, THERE! WOTTA YOU DOIN' IN MY HOUSE?
ROWDY, OF ALL PEOPLE!
OLD SPLENDIX, EH?
THIS'LL BE THE MOST SENSATIONAL CASE IN YEARS.
OH, WOTTA FOOL I'VE BEEN! THEY'LL FIND MY FINGER-PRINTS ON TH' GUN— THEY'LL THINK I DID IT!!
HOMICIDE SQUAD
R000 000AR!
EXTRA! EXTRA! MILLIONAIRE FOUND MURDERED!
EASY! I GOTTA FIND EASY!
ISN'T HOME YET? THEN WE'LL WAIT.
DETECTIVES! THEY'RE AFTER ME!
MOTHER'S GREY MEALS
CALLING CAR THREE CALLING CAR THREE. PICK UP WASH TUBBS FOR QUESTIONING! WASH TUBBS! PICK UP WASH TUBBS.
OH, MY GOSH!

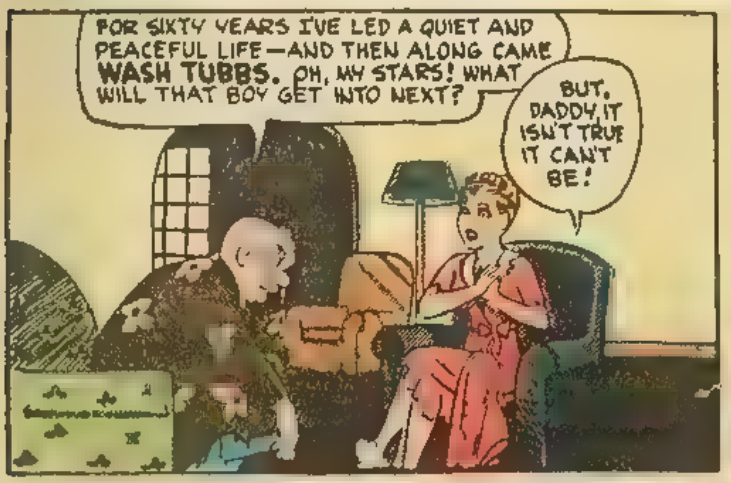
EXTRA! EXTRA! ALL ABOUT THE BIG MURDER!
CALLING ALL CARS! PICK UP WASH TUBBS FOR QUESTIONING.
HEY! THERE'S WASH!
THERE HE GOES!
OH, MY GOSH!
WHOA, THERE, SONNY BOY! WHERE YA GOIN'?
BUT I GOTTA FIND EASY! HE'LL KNOW WOT TO DO.
WAIT'LL THAT COP GITS BY. YA BIN MIGHTY NICE TO ME, SONNY, AN' IT'S HIGH TIME I'M RIGHTIN' TH' WRONGS I DONE YA.
THE COPS ARE AFTER ME!
I KNOW. THEY THINK YA KILT OLD MAN SPLENDIX.
OH, WHAT'LL I DO?
THERE, THERE, PORE LIL FELLER! YOU WAS ALWAYS SO PERLITE AN' KINDLY — WHY, EVERY TIME I THINK OF THE WRONGS I DONE YA AN' THE LIES I TOLD, IT PURTY NEAR TEARS MY OLD HEART OUT.
LOOK! THERE'S ANOTHER COP!
I BEEN A LOW-DOWN RASCAL, WASHIE — A SKUNK! BUT ONCET UPON A TIME, I HAD A LITTLE BOY OF MY OWN, AND EVERY TIME YA CALLED ME "PAPA" — AH, HOW IT GOT ME!
HE'S AFTER ME!
I CAN'T LET YA GO TO JAIL, SONNY BOY. I FEELS TOWARD YA LIKE A FATHER. QUICK — CATCH THIS RATTLER!

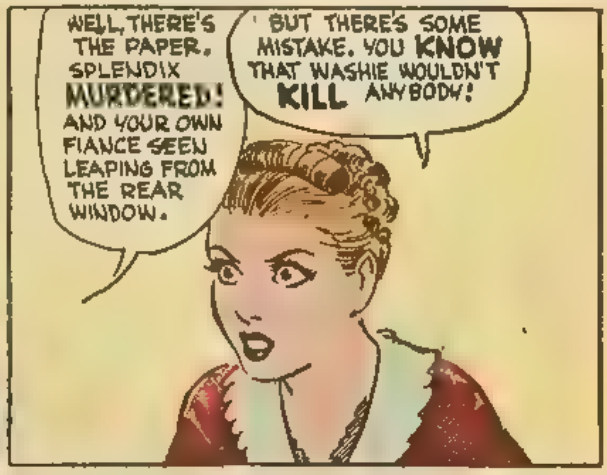
JUST AS I ENTERED THE BACK DOOR WASH JUMPED OUT A WINDOW. AND HERE WAS MY DEAR FATHER.... MURDERED!
THREE PEOPLE HEARD TUBBS THREATEN TO KILL MR. SPLENDIX, CHIEF. AND HIS FINGERPRINTS TALLY WITH THOSE ON THE GUN.
HUM! LOOKS LIKE TUBBS IS GUILTY!
OF COURSE HE'S GUILTY! TH' DIRTY CROOK! THE MURDERER! PLEASE, GENTLEMEN, I—I'M TOO HEARTBROKEN TO CONTINUE.
POOR BOY!
HUM! I WONDER! IF WASH SHOT THE GUVNOR, THEN HE MUST HAVE KNOWN WHAT WE WERE UP TO. HE'LL BRING IT OUT AT THE TRIAL, AND RUIN MY CHANCES WITH CAROL.
OH, WELL! I SHOULD WORRY ABOUT HER! THE OLD MAN WAS PLENTY RICH — I'LL INHERIT MILLIONS ANYWAY.
EXTRA, EXTRA! ALL ABOUT TH MILLIONAIRE MURDER!
HERE, BOY!
CAROL! CAROL! OPEN THE DOOR! SPLENDIX IS DEAD! MURDERED!!
OH, DADDY, HOW DREADFUL!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. ONLY THIS AFTERNOON HE WAS TELLING WHAT A FINE BOY ROWDY IS. AND NOW....HEY, WHAT'S THIS? "POLICE ARE SEARCHING FOR WASH TUBBS, WELL KNOWN LOCAL YOUTH, WHO WAS SEEN LEAPING FROM A REAR WINDOW."
OH, MY STARS AND BODY! HOSKINS! QUICK, GET A DOCTOR!

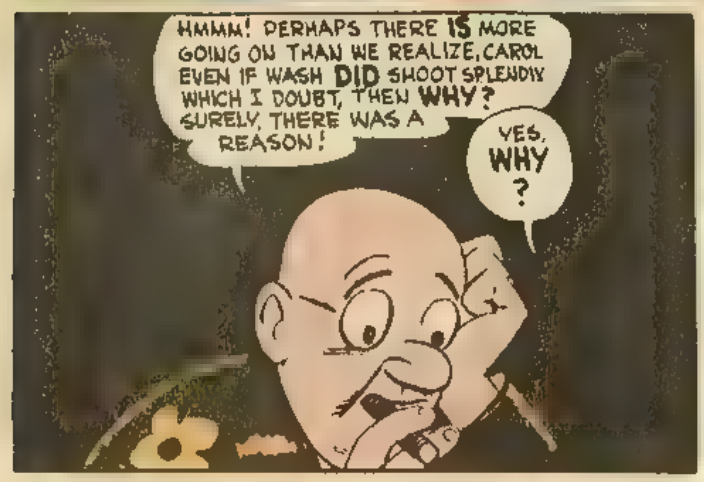
CAPTAIN EASY

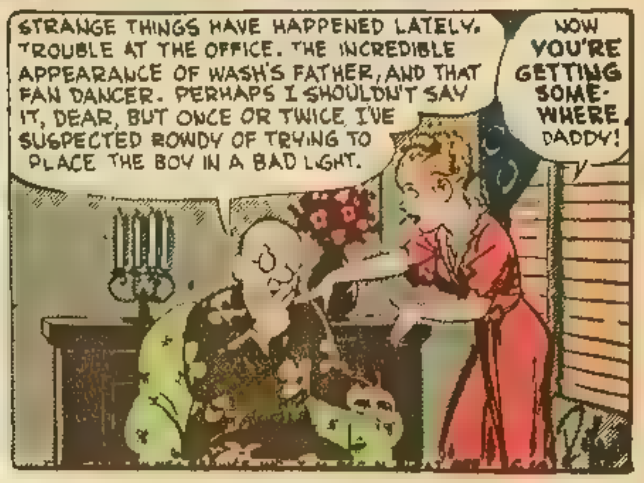
SOLDIER of FORTUNE

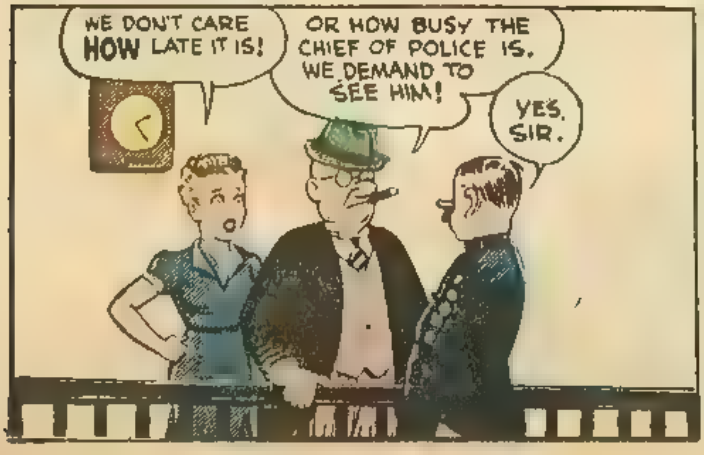
by Roy CRANE

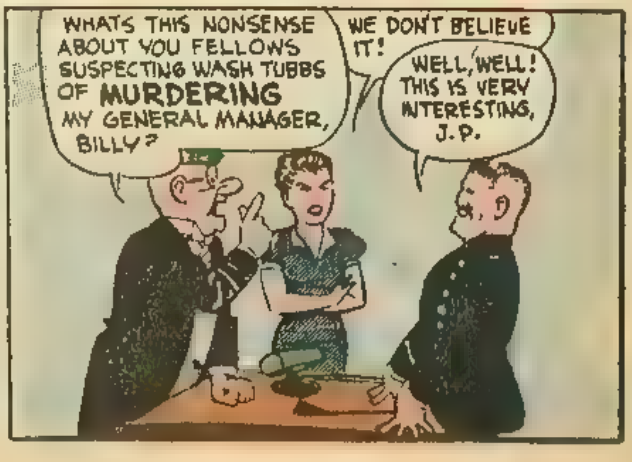

FOR SIXTY YEARS I'VE LED A QUIET AND PEACEFUL LIFE—AND THEN ALONG CAME WASH TUBBS. OH, MY STARS! WHAT WILL THAT BOY GET INTO NEXT?
BUT, DADDY, IT ISN'T TRUE IT CAN'T BE!


WELL, THERE'S THE PAPER. SPLENDIX MURDERED! AND YOUR OWN FIANCE SEEN LEAPING FROM THE REAR WINDOW.
BUT THERE'S SOME MISTAKE. YOU KNOW THAT WASHIE WOULDN'T KILL ANYBODY!


HMMM! PERHAPS THERE IS MORE GOING ON THAN WE REALIZE, CAROL EVEN IF WASH DID SHOOT SPLENDIX WHICH I DOUBT, THEN WHY? SURELY, THERE WAS A REASON!
YES, WHY?


STRANGE THINGS HAVE HAPPENED LATELY. TROUBLE AT THE OFFICE. THE INCREDIBLE APPEARANCE OF WASH'S FATHER, AND THAT FAN DANCER. PERHAPS I SHOULDN'T SAY IT, DEAR, BUT ONCE OR TWICE I'VE SUSPECTED ROWDY OF TRYING TO PLACE THE BOY IN A BAD LIGHT.
NOW YOU'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE, DADDY!



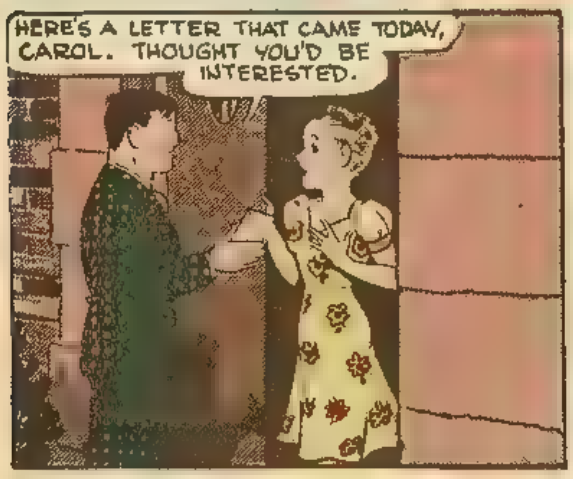

WHATS THIS NONSENSE ABOUT YOU FELLOWS SUSPECTING WASH TUBBS OF MURDERING MY GENERAL MANAGER, BILLY?
WE DON'T BELIEVE IT!
WELL, WELL! THIS IS VERY INTERESTING, J.P.

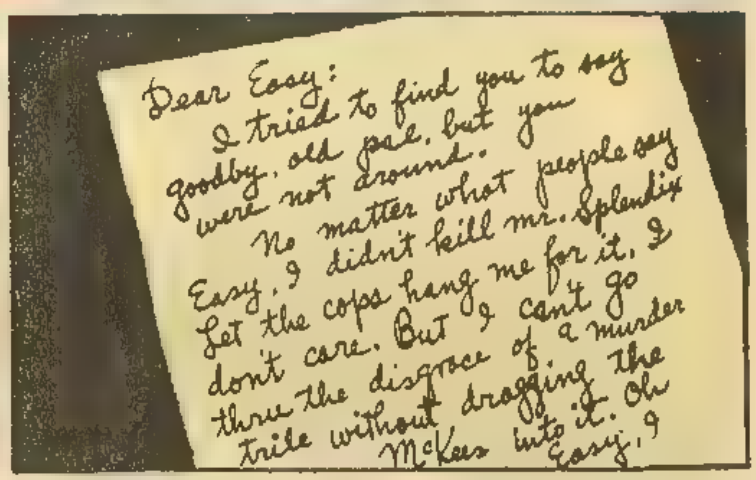
I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THERE HAD BEEN A QUARREL WITH TUBBS, AND YOUR ENGAGEMENT BROKEN.
THERE HAD BEEN WORDS, YES, BUT NOTHING SERIOUS!
WE STILL HAVE THE UTMOST FAITH IN WASH.
YOUR LOYALTY IS VERY COMMENDABLE, J.P., BUT HIGHLY INADVISABLE. THERE'S APT TO BE A NASTY SCANDAL.
CONFOUND THE SCANDAL!!
WE INTEND TO STAND BY WASHIE IN HIS HOUR OF NEED, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!
WHY, HERE'S EASY!
CONFOUNDED POLICE THINK WASH MURDERED OLD SPLENDIX. IT'S PREPOSTEROUS! WE'LL STAND BY THE BOY THRU THICK AND THIN. I'LL HIRE THE BEST LAWYERS IN THE LAND! I'LL——
BLAZES! THAT'S GREAT MR. McKEE!
WONDERFUL! WHY, YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW TICKLED WASH WILL BE! HE WAS AFRAID YOU WERE ABOUT TO GIVE HIM THE GATE.
THINGS HAVE BEEN RATHER TRYING, PERHAPS, BUT WE HAVE THE UTMOST FAITH IN WASH.
THEN YOU'LL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT HIS "FATHER" AND THAT FAN-DANCER WERE PHONIES, HIRED BY THE SPLENDIXES TO RUIN HIM WITH YOU.
HA! WE SUSPECTED IT.
BUT THIS EVIDENCE, EASY. WE'RE DREADFULLY WORRIED.
PURELY CIRCUMSTANTIAL! WITHIN THE HOUR, I HOPE TO PROVE THAT WASH IS ABSOLUTELY INNOCENT.
AS I UNDERSTAND THE CASE, GENTLEMEN, YOU THINK TUBBS GUILTY FOR THREE REASONS: HE THREATENED TO KILL SPLENDIX, HE WAS SEEN LEAVING THE SPLENDIX HOUSE, AND HIS FINGERPRINTS WERE ON THE .32 AUTOMATIC FOUND THERE.
HUMPH! AIN'T THEY ENOUGH REASONS?
HARDLY. I MAINTAIN THAT MR SPLENDIX HAD ALREADY BEEN MURDERED WHEN WASH ARRIVED. THE FINGERPRINTS ON THE GUN ARE IRRELEVANT.
OH, THEY ARE, ARE THEY?

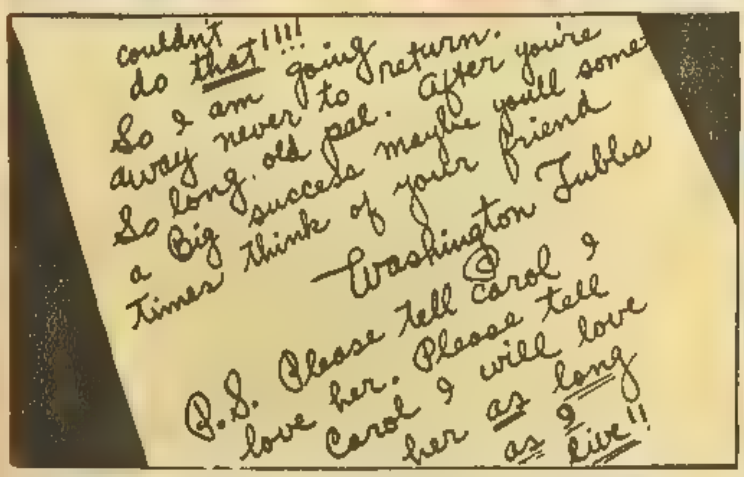
CERTAINLY. WASH'S FINGERPRINTS ARE ON A "32" AUTOMATIC, AND SPLENDIX WAS SHOT WITH A ".38."
WHAT!
BY GEORGE! HE'S RIGHT!
AND FURTHERMORE, I'VE HAD REASON TO FOLLOW A MR. BOLITO COKER, BOY-FRIEND OF THE FAN-DANCER WHO WAS HIRED BY THE SPLENDIKES TO RUIN WASH. I'M AN EYE-WITNESS, GENTLEMEN, TO COKER'S ATTEMPTED BLACKMAIL, QUARREL, AND MURDER OF MR. SPLENDIX.
OH, YOU FOOL! YOU KILLED OLD SPLENDIX, THE GOOSE THAT WAS ABOUT TO LAY THE GOLDEN EGG.
HA-HA! AT LEAST I DIDN'T LEAVE ANY FINGERPRINTS LAYIN' AROUND, LIKE WASH TUBBS DONE.
HE'LL HANG FOR IT, THE SAP. LOOK AT THE PAPERS. WHY, THE COPS ARE SEARCHING FOR HIM THIS VERY MINUTE.
HE'S THE MAN.
IS THAT THE MAN, EASY?
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, COKER, FOR THE MURDER OF I.R. SPLENDIX!
WE DIDN'T SLEEP A WINK. ALL NIGHT LONG THE POLICE WERE HIDING OUTSIDE. THEY WERE TRYING TO CATCH WASH.
WE'VE BEEN WORRIED TO DEATH!
OH, WELL, EVERY-THING'S OKAY NOW.
OH, EASY! SURELY IT ISN'T TRUE THAT HE KILLED MR. SPLENDIX?
OF COURSE NOT, CHILD. I'VE JUST COME FROM THE POLICE STATION. THEY'VE ARRESTED A FELLOW NAMED BOLITO COKER... EVEN FOUND THE GUN ON HIM. HE'S CONFESSED EVERY-THING.

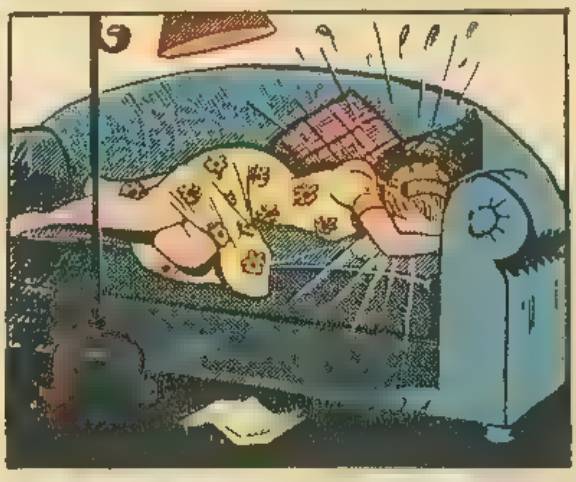
WHERE'S WASH? I GOTTA TELL HIM THE GOOD NEWS.
WASH? WHY, HE DIDN'T COME HOME.
WE-WE THOUGHT HE'D BEEN ARRESTED.

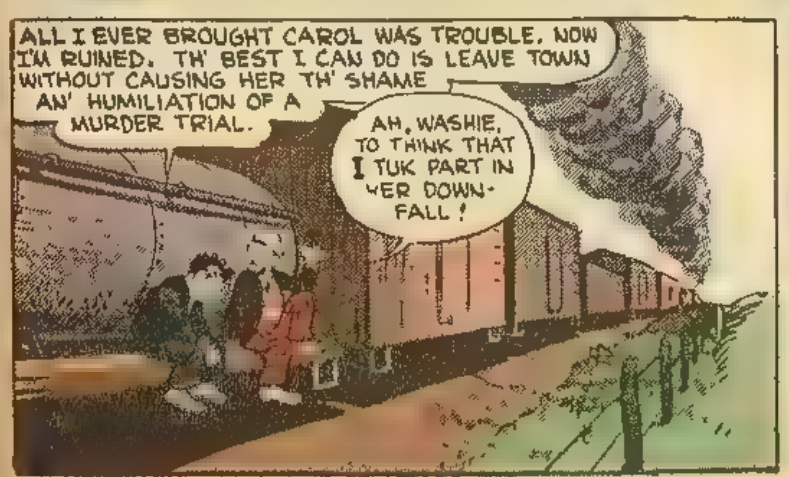
BLAZES. NO! WHY THAT'S FUNNY. WHERE COULD HE BE?
?
?

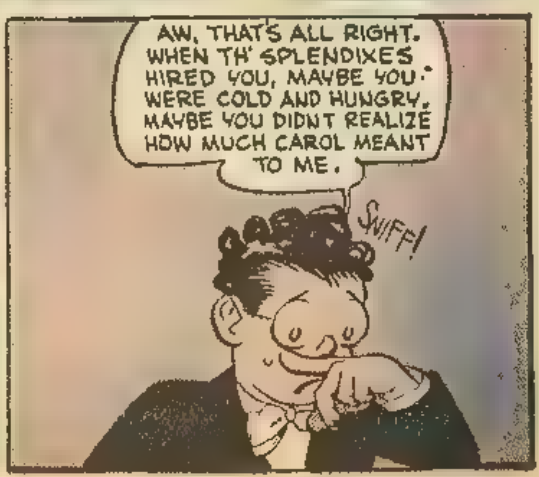

HERE'S A LETTER THAT CAME TODAY, CAROL. THOUGHT YOU'D BE INTERESTED.

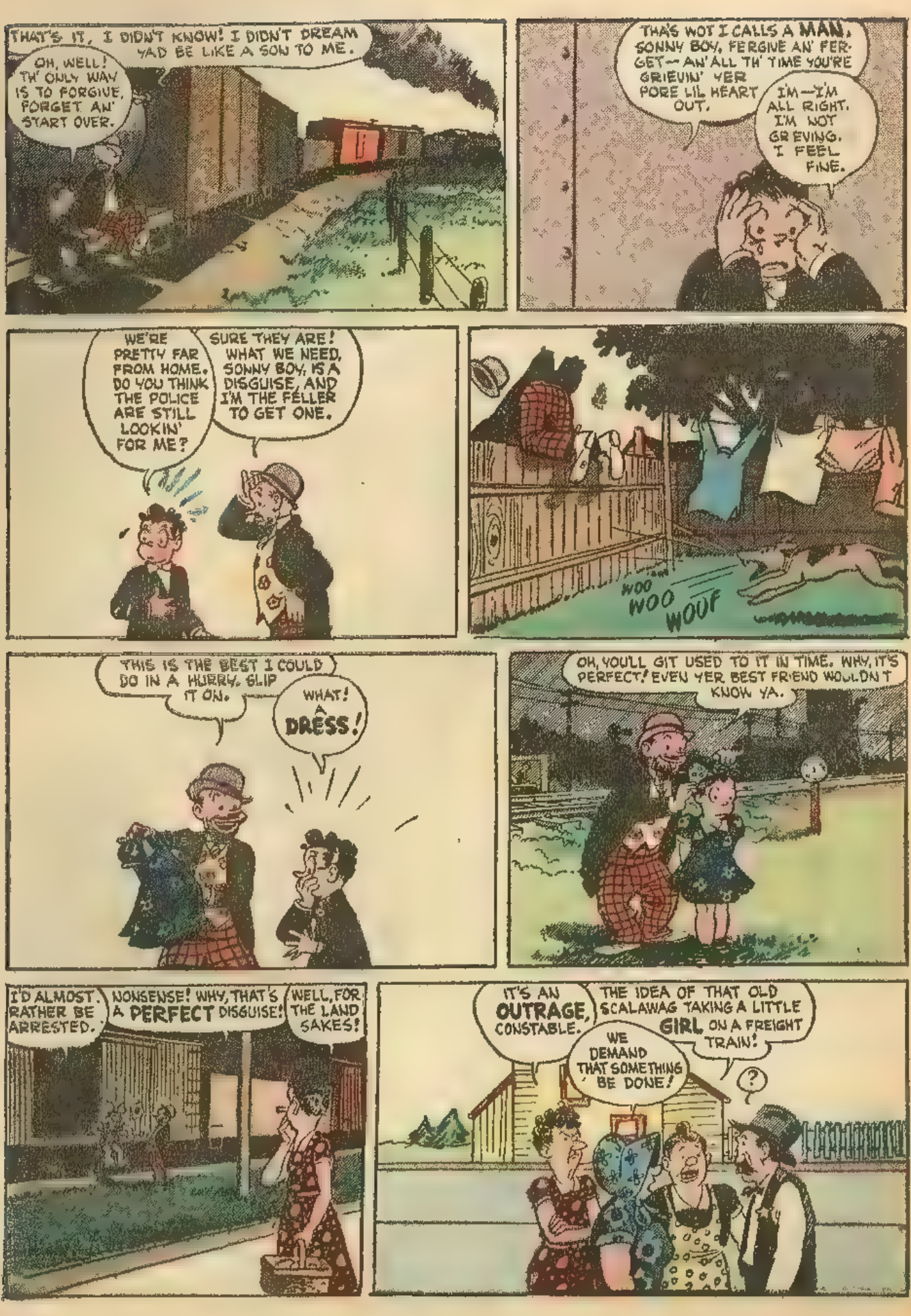

Dear Easy:
I tried to find you to say goodby, old pal, but you were not around.
No matter what people say Easy, I didn't kill mr. Splendix Let the cops hang me for it, I don't care. But I can't go thru the disgrace of a murder trile without dragging the McKees into it. Oh Easy,

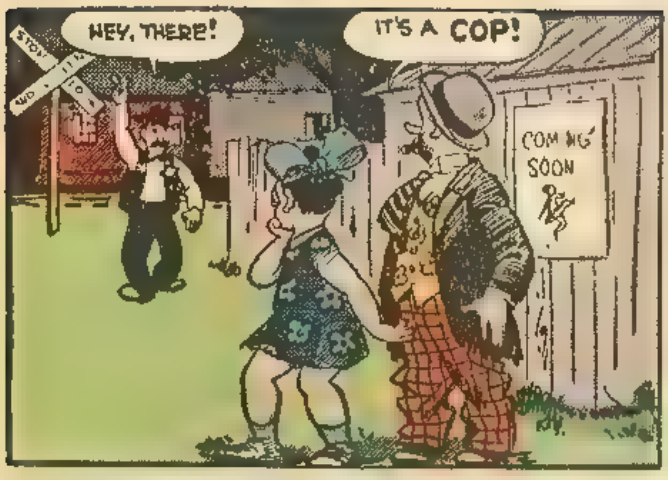

couldn't do that!!!!
So I am going away never to return.
So long, old pal. After you're a Big success maybe you'll some Times think of your friend
Washington Tubbs
P.S. Please tell Carol I love her. Please tell Carol I will love her as long as I live!!



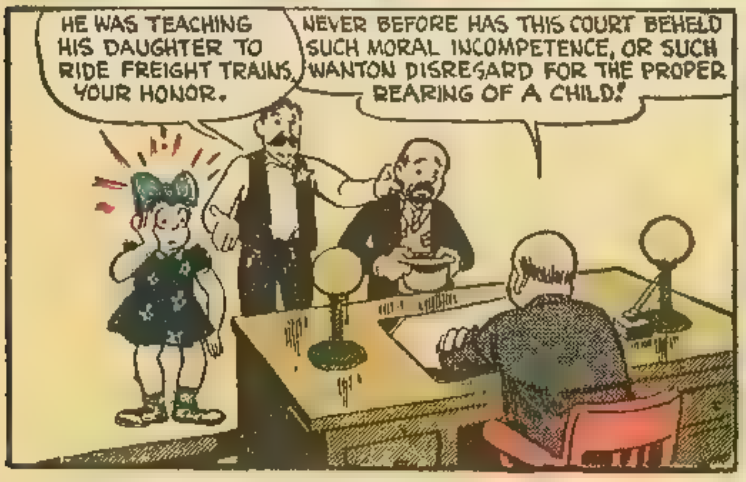

ALL I EVER BROUGHT CAROL WAS TROUBLE. NOW I'M RUINED. TH' BEST I CAN DO IS LEAVE TOWN WITHOUT CAUSING HER TH' SHAME AN' HUMILIATION OF A MURDER TRIAL.
AH, WASHIE, TO THINK THAT I TUK PART IN HER DOWN-FALL!


AW, THAT'S ALL RIGHT. WHEN TH' SPLENDIXES HIRED YOU, MAYBE YOU WERE COLD AND HUNGRY. MAYBE YOU DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH CAROL MEANT TO ME.
SNIFF!

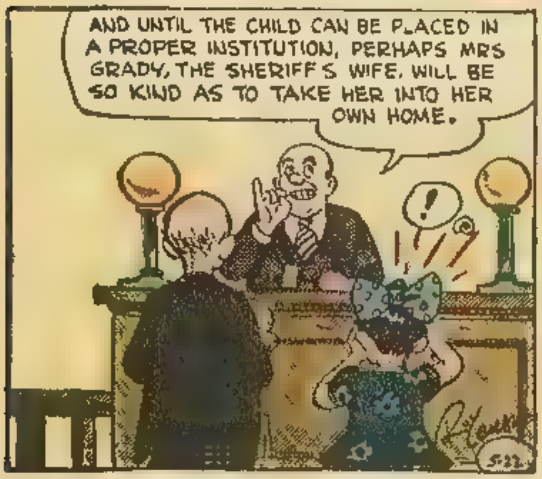

THAT'S IT, I DIDN'T KNOW! I DIDN'T DREAM YAD BE LIKE A SON TO ME.
OH, WELL! TH' ONLY WAY IS TO FORGIVE, FORGET AN' START OVER.
THAT'S WOT I CALLS A MAN, SONNY BOY, FERGIVE AN' FERGET — AN' ALL TH' TIME YOU'RE GRIEVIN' YER PORE LIL HEART OUT.
I'M — I'M ALL RIGHT. I'M NOT GRIEVING. I FEEL FINE.
WE'RE PRETTY FAR FROM HOME. DO YOU THINK THE POLICE ARE STILL LOOKIN' FOR ME?
SURE THEY ARE! WHAT WE NEED, SONNY BOY, IS A DISGUISE, AND I'M THE FELLER TO GET ONE.
WOO WOO WOUF
THIS IS THE BEST I COULD DO IN A HURRY. SLIP IT ON.
WHAT! A DRESS!
OH, YOU'LL GIT USED TO IT IN TIME. WHY, IT'S PERFECT! EVEN YER BEST FRIEND WOULDN'T KNOW YA.
I'D ALMOST RATHER BE ARRESTED.
NONSENSE! WHY, THAT'S A PERFECT DISGUISE!
WELL, FOR THE LAND SAKES!
IT'S AN OUTRAGE, CONSTABLE.
THE IDEA OF THAT OLD SCALAWAG TAKING A LITTLE GIRL ON A FREIGHT TRAIN!
WE DEMAND THAT SOMETHING BE DONE!
?

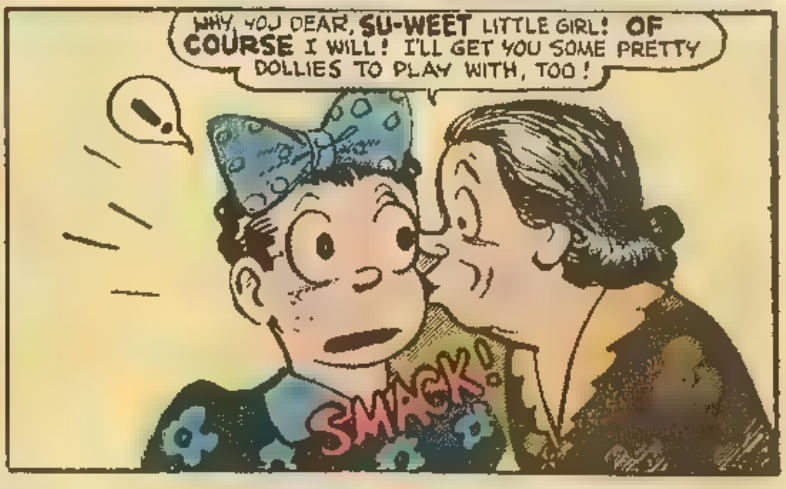

HEY, THERE!
IT'S A COP!
COMING SOON

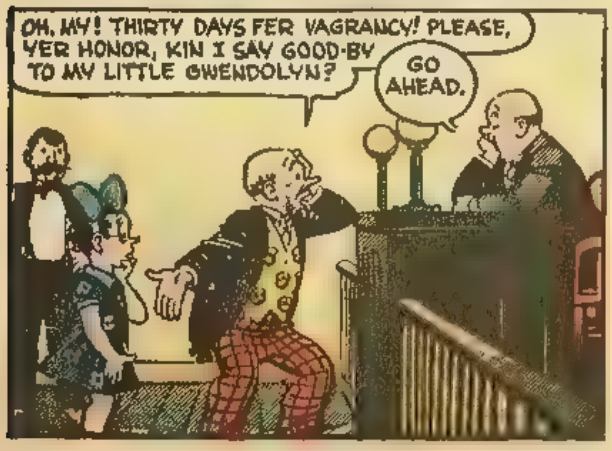
HOLY SMOKE! HE MUSTA RECOGNIZED ME!
S'HELP ME, SONNY BOY, I DON'T SEE HOW THE HECK HE DONE IT!

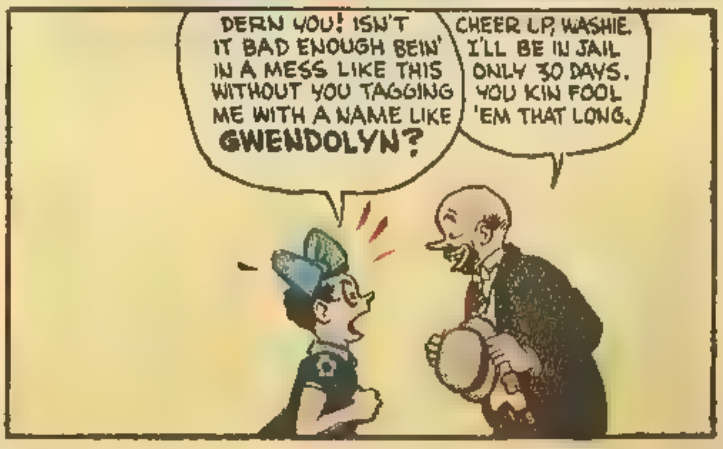

HE WAS TEACHING HIS DAUGHTER TO RIDE FREIGHT TRAINS, YOUR HONOR.
NEVER BEFORE HAS THIS COURT BEHELD SUCH MORAL INCOMPETENCE, OR SUCH WANTON DISREGARD FOR THE PROPER REARING OF A CHILD!

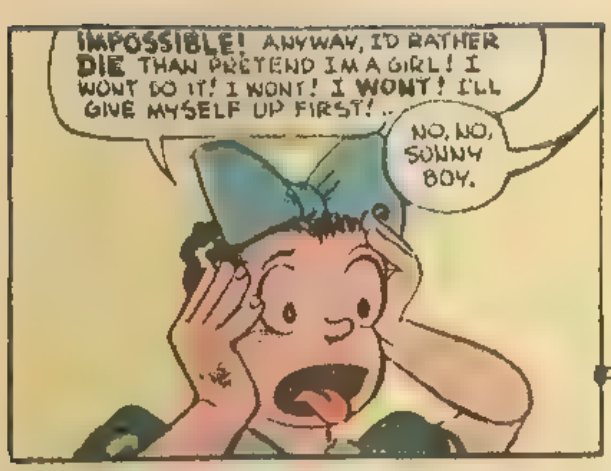
THIRTY DAYS FOR VAGRANCY!
GULP!!

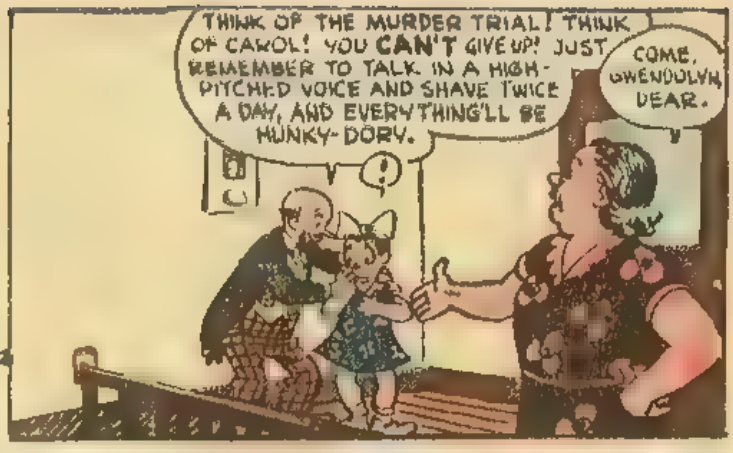

AND UNTIL THE CHILD CAN BE PLACED IN A PROPER INSTITUTION, PERHAPS MRS GRADY, THE SHERIFF'S WIFE, WILL BE SO KIND AS TO TAKE HER INTO HER OWN HOME.


WHY, YOU DEAR, SU-WEET LITTLE GIRL! OF COURSE I WILL! I'LL GET YOU SOME PRETTY DOLLIES TO PLAY WITH, TOO!
SMACK!

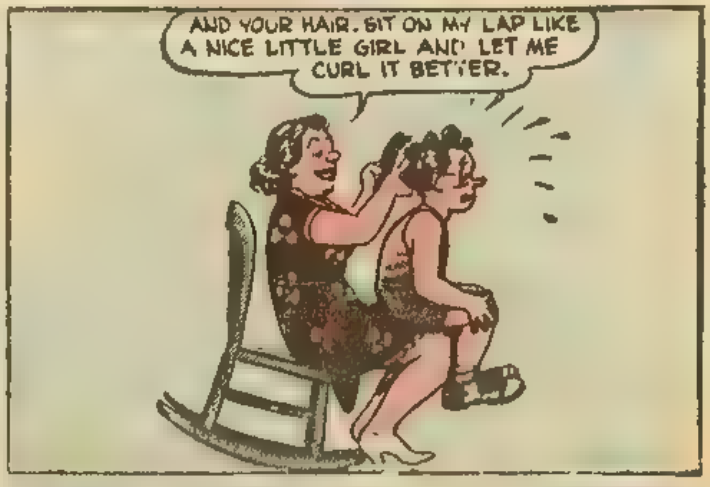

OH, MY! THIRTY DAYS FER VAGRANCY! PLEASE, YER HONOR, KIN I SAY GOOD-BY TO MY LITTLE GWENDOLYN?
GO AHEAD.

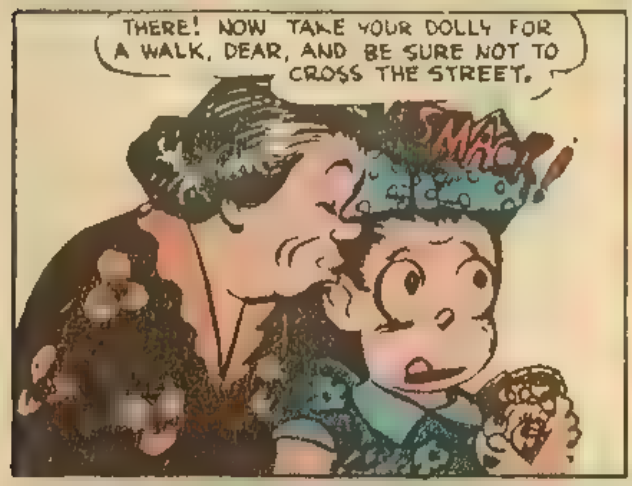

DERN YOU! ISN'T IT BAD ENOUGH BEIN' IN A MESS LIKE THIS WITHOUT YOU TAGGING ME WITH A NAME LIKE GWENDOLYN?
CHEER UP, WASHIE. I'LL BE IN JAIL ONLY 30 DAYS. YOU KIN FOOL 'EM THAT LONG.

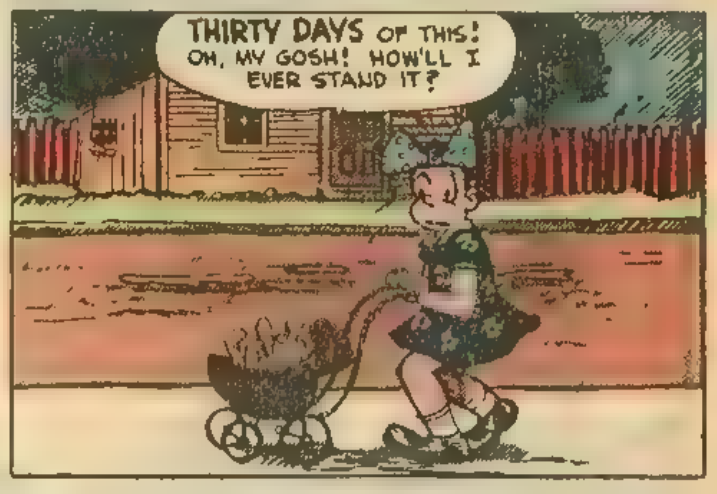

IMPOSSIBLE! ANYWAY, I'D RATHER DIE THAN PRETEND I'M A GIRL! I WON'T DO IT! I WON'T! I WONT! I'LL GIVE MYSELF UP FIRST!..
NO, NO, SONNY BOY.


THINK OF THE MURDER TRIAL! THINK OF CAROL! YOU CAN'T GIVE UP! JUST REMEMBER TO TALK IN A HIGH-PITCHED VOICE AND SHAVE TWICE A DAY, AND EVERYTHING'LL BE HUNKY-DORY.
!
COME, GWENDOLYN, DEAR.

WHILE "PAPA" IS IN JAIL FOR VAGRANCY, WASH HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE HANDS OF THE SHERIFF'S WIFE.
MY STARS, GWENDOLYN! JUST LOOK AT YOUR EARS.

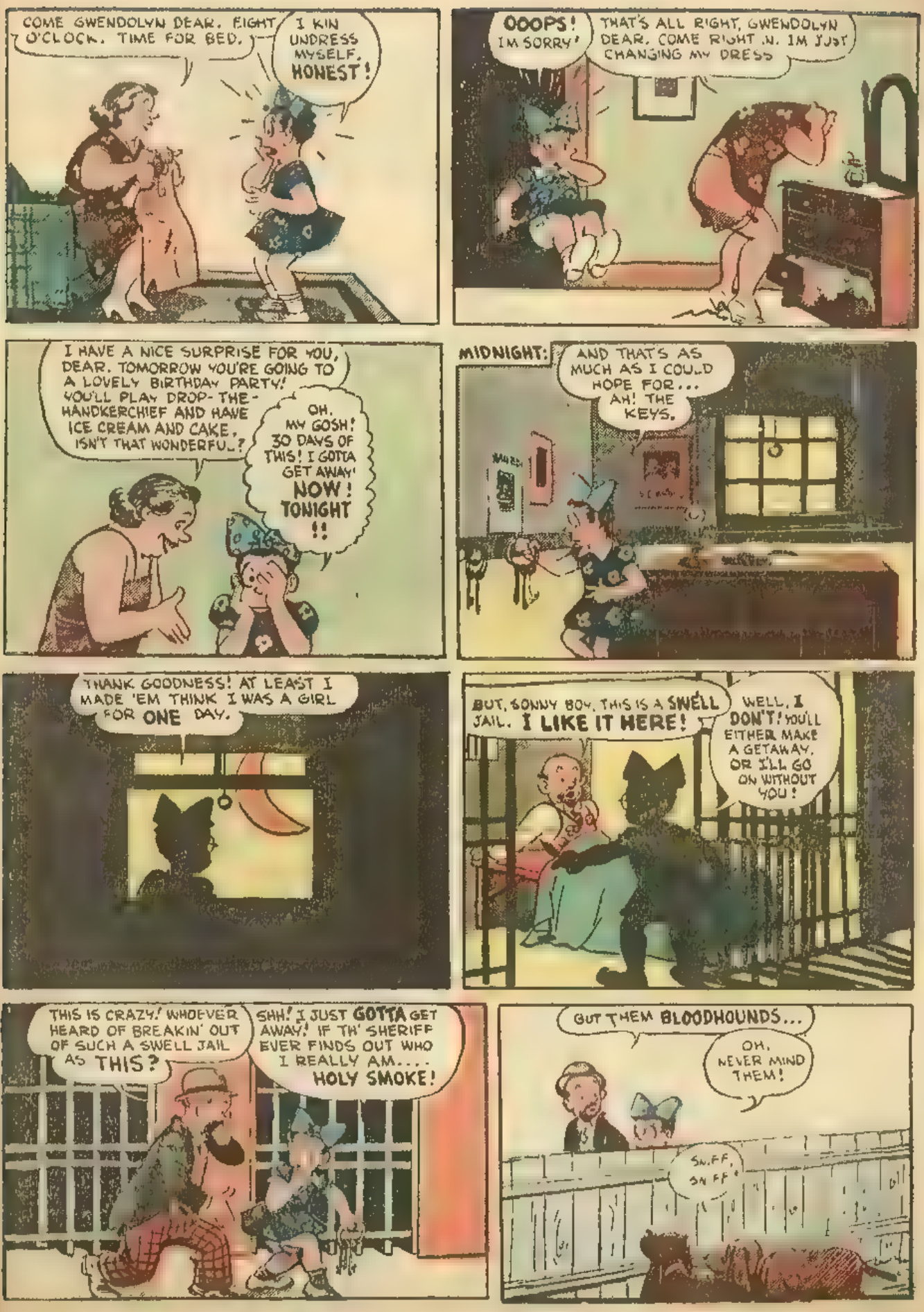

AND YOUR HAIR. SIT ON MY LAP LIKE A NICE LITTLE GIRL AND LET ME CURL IT BETTER.


THERE! NOW TAKE YOUR DOLLY FOR A WALK, DEAR, AND BE SURE NOT TO CROSS THE STREET.
SMACK!


THIRTY DAYS OF THIS! OH, MY GOSH! HOW'LL I EVER STAND IT?

WASH, DISGUISED AS A LITTLE GIRL, IS BEING CARED FOR BY THE SHERIFF'S WIFE WHILE "PAPA" IS IN THE COOLER.
WOTTA PREDICAMENT BUT, ANYWAY, TH' JAIL IS JUST ABOVE WHERE WE LIVE.

TWO BLOODHOUNDS.. NOT SO GOOD! STILL, IF I CAN FIND WHERE THEY KEEP THE KEYS——

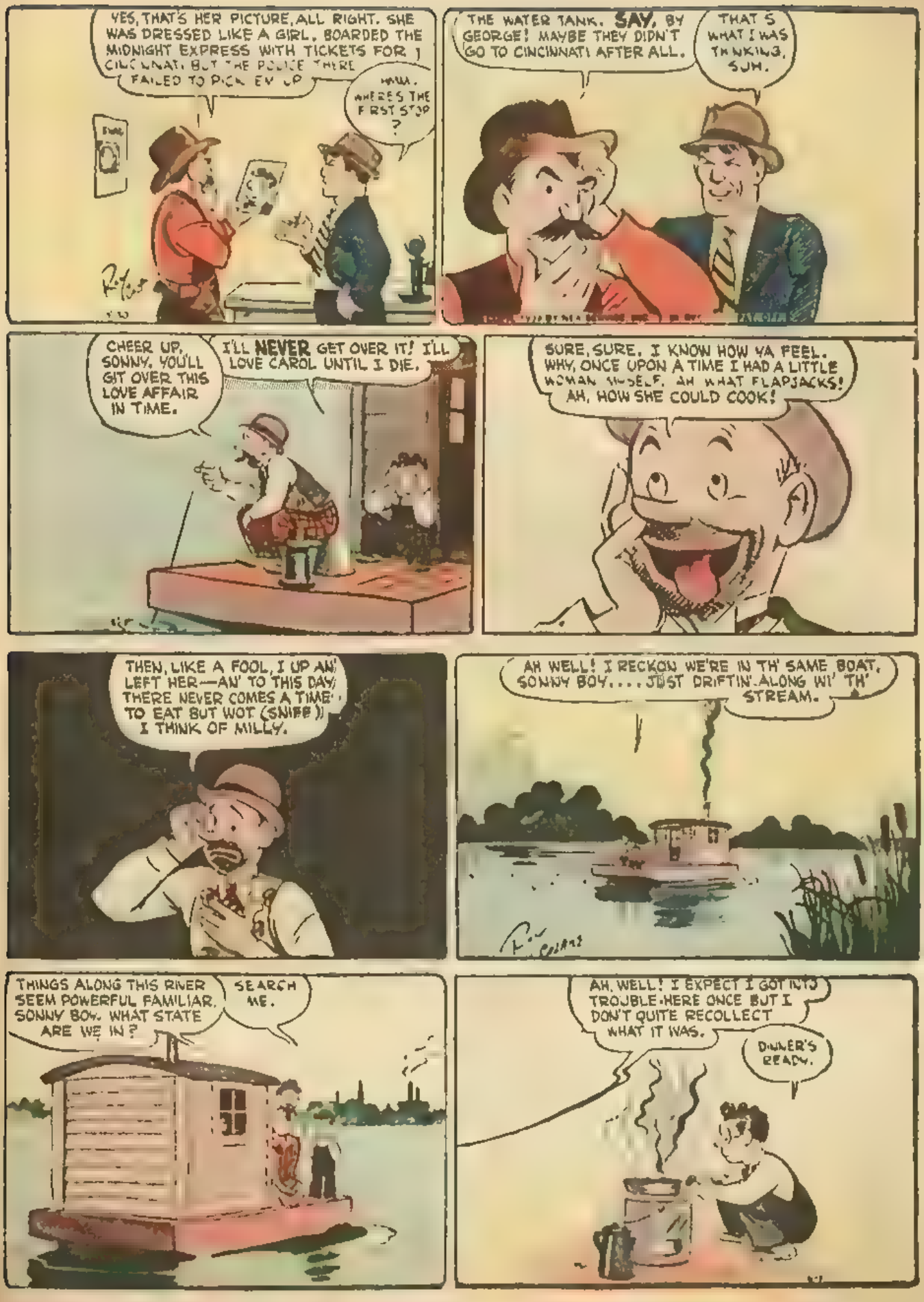

COME GWENDOLYN DEAR. EIGHT O'CLOCK. TIME FOR BED.
I KIN UNDRESS MYSELF, HONEST!
OOOPS! IM SORRY!
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, GWENDOLYN DEAR. COME RIGHT IN. IM JUST CHANGING MY DRESS
I HAVE A NICE SURPRISE FOR YOU, DEAR. TOMORROW YOU'RE GOING TO A LOVELY BIRTHDAY PARTY! YOU'LL PLAY DROP-THE-HANDKERCHIEF AND HAVE ICE CREAM AND CAKE, ISN'T THAT WONDERFUL?
OH, MY GOSH! 30 DAYS OF THIS! I GOTTA GET AWAY! NOW! TONIGHT !!
MIDNIGHT:
AND THAT'S AS MUCH AS I COULD HOPE FOR... AH! THE KEYS.
THANK GOODNESS! AT LEAST I MADE 'EM THINK I WAS A GIRL FOR ONE DAY.
BUT, SONNY BOY, THIS IS A SWELL JAIL. I LIKE IT HERE!
WELL, I DON'T! YOU'LL EITHER MAKE A GETAWAY, OR I'LL GO ON WITHOUT YOU!
THIS IS CRAZY! WHOEVER HEARD OF BREAKIN' OUT OF SUCH A SWELL JAIL AS THIS?
SHH! I JUST GOTTA GET AWAY! IF TH' SHERIFF EVER FINDS OUT WHO I REALLY AM.... HOLY SMOKE!
BUT THEM BLOODHOUNDS...
OH, NEVER MIND THEM!
SNIFF, SNIFF

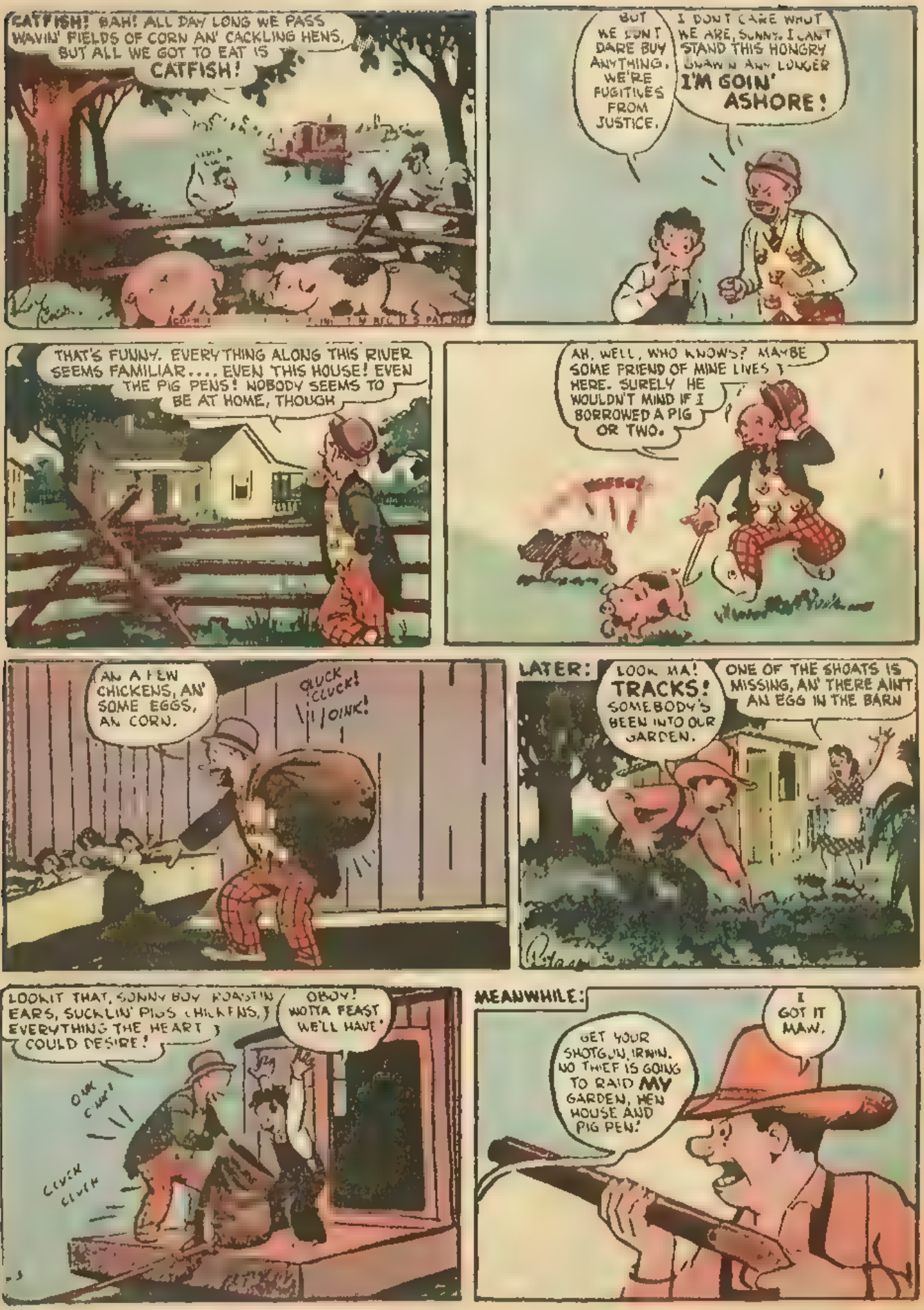
CAPTAIN EASY

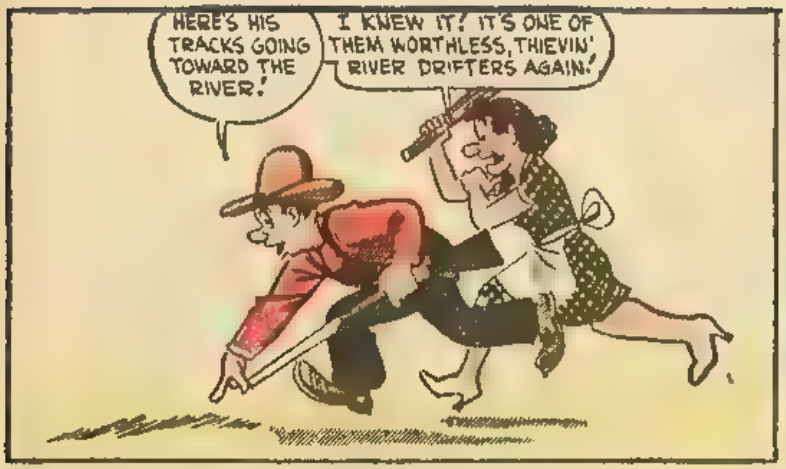
SOLDIER of FORTUNE

by Roy CRANE

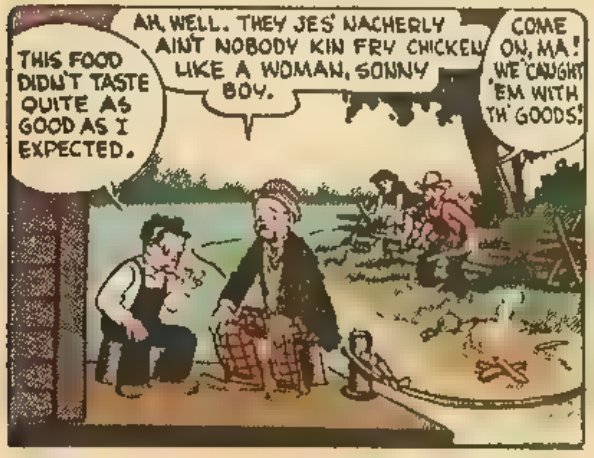
TWO TICKETS TO CINCINNATI, PLEASE.
BUT THEY'LL TRAIL US TO TH' STATION SONNY BOY THEY'LL FIND OUT WE WENT TO CINCINNATI
AH HA! THAT'S JUST IT! WE AREN'T GOING TO CINCINNATI! HERE SLOWING DOWN FOR THE WATER TANK... HERES WHERE WE GET OFF!
BY LEAVING THE TRAIN AT THE WATER TANK, HA, WE'LL FOOL THOSE COPS!
WELL DOG FETCHIT! LOOK WOT I SEE! YOU KEEP OUTA SIGHT SONNY BOY--IM A GOUNA BUY US A RIVER PALACE
I GOT YA SOME OVERALLS TOO! BOY, THIS IS THE LIFE! WELL LIKE LIKE KINGS NO MORE WORRIES AN TROUBLES
A RIVER HERMIT, THATS WOT ILL BE
YOU'RE SMART EASY. YOU'VE SOLVED THE SPLENDIX MURDER AND A LOT OF THINGS. OH, PLEASE, YOU'VE GOT TO FIND WASH!
AND BRING HIM BACK. WE'RE DEPENDING ON YOU, BOY.
I'LL DO MY BEST.
ONLY ONE CLUE. NEWSPAPER STORY SAYS A LITTLE CURLY-HAIRED GIRL HELPED HER DAD ESCAPE FROM JAIL.... THAT DOESN'T SOUND REASONABLE.

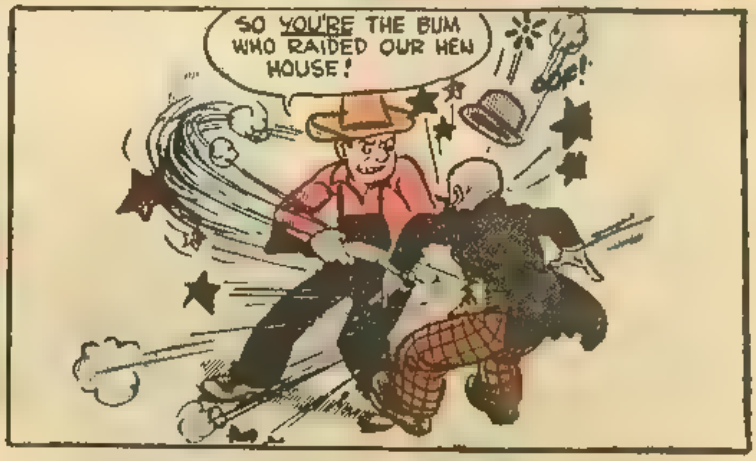

YES, THAT'S HER PICTURE, ALL RIGHT. SHE WAS DRESSED LIKE A GIRL, BOARDED THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS WITH TICKETS FOR CINCINNATI, BUT THE POLICE THERE FAILED TO PICK EM UP
HMM. WHERE'S THE FIRST STOP?
THE WATER TANK. SAY, BY GEORGE! MAYBE THEY DIDN'T GO TO CINCINNATI AFTER ALL.
THAT'S WHAT I WAS THINKING, SUH.
CHEER UP, SONNY. YOU'LL GIT OVER THIS LOVE AFFAIR IN TIME.
I'LL NEVER GET OVER IT! I'LL LOVE CAROL UNTIL I DIE.
SURE, SURE, I KNOW HOW YA FEEL. WHY, ONCE UPON A TIME I HAD A LITTLE WOMAN HERSELF. AH WHAT FLAPJACKS! AH, HOW SHE COULD COOK!
THEN, LIKE A FOOL, I UP AN' LEFT HER—AN' TO THIS DAY, THERE NEVER COMES A TIME TO EAT BUT WOT (SNIFF)) I THINK OF MILLY.
AH WELL! I RECKON WE'RE IN TH' SAME BOAT, SONNY BOY.... JUST DRIFTIN' ALONG WI' TH' STREAM.
THINGS ALONG THIS RIVER SEEM POWERFUL FAMILIAR, SONNY BOY. WHAT STATE ARE WE IN?
SEARCH ME.
AH, WELL! I EXPECT I GOT INTO TROUBLE HERE ONCE BUT I DON'T QUITE RECOLLECT WHAT IT WAS.
DINNER'S READY.


CATFISH! BAH! ALL DAY LONG WE PASS WAVIN' FIELDS OF CORN AN' CACKLING HENS, BUT ALL WE GOT TO EAT IS CATFISH!
BUT WE DON'T DARE BUY ANYTHING, WE'RE FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE.
I DON'T CARE WHUT WE ARE, SONNY. I CAN'T STAND THIS HONGRY GNAWIN' ANY LONGER I'M GOIN' ASHORE!
THAT'S FUNNY. EVERYTHING ALONG THIS RIVER SEEMS FAMILIAR.... EVEN THIS HOUSE! EVEN THE PIG PENS! NOBODY SEEMS TO BE AT HOME, THOUGH
AH, WELL, WHO KNOWS? MAYBE SOME FRIEND OF MINE LIVES HERE. SURELY HE WOULDN'T MIND IF I BORROWED A PIG OR TWO.
AN A FEW CHICKENS, AN' SOME EGGS, AN CORN.
CLUCK CLUCK!
OINK!
LATER:
LOOK MA! TRACKS! SOMEBODY'S BEEN INTO OUR GARDEN.
ONE OF THE SHOATS IS MISSING, AN' THERE AIN'T AN EGG IN THE BARN
LOOKIT THAT, SONNY BOY ROASTIN EARS, SUCKLIN' PIGS CHILLENS, EVERYTHING THE HEART COULD DESIRE!
OBOY! WOTTA FEAST WE'LL HAVE!
OINK OINK!
CLUCK CLUCK
MEANWHILE:
I GOT IT MAW.
GET YOUR SHOTGUN, IRWIN. NO THIEF IS GOING TO RAID MY GARDEN, HEN HOUSE AND PIG PEN!

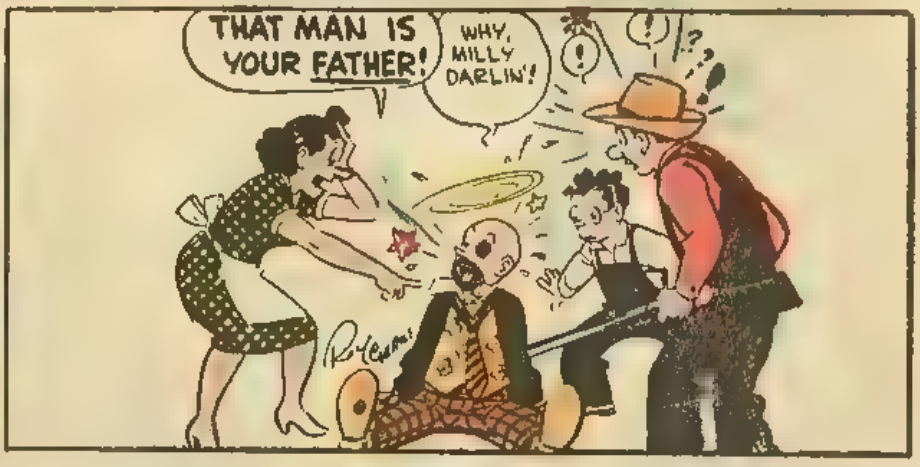

HERE'S HIS TRACKS GOING TOWARD THE RIVER!
I KNEW IT! IT'S ONE OF THEM WORTHLESS, THIEVIN' RIVER DRIFTERS AGAIN!

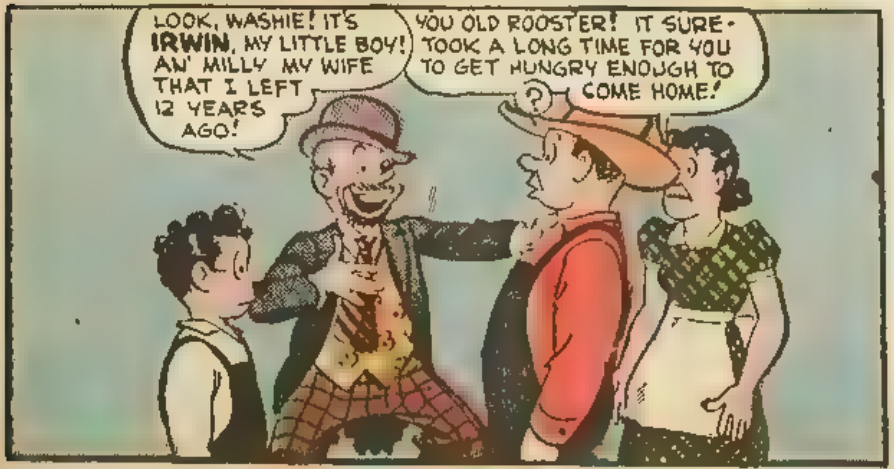
HA! AIN'T THAT FRIED CHICKEN I SMELL?
THAT'S THEM! WE'VE CAUGHT 'EM WITH THE GOODS!


THIS FOOD DIDN'T TASTE QUITE AS GOOD AS I EXPECTED.
AH, WELL. THEY JES' NACHERLY AIN'T NOBODY KIN FRY CHICKEN LIKE A WOMAN, SONNY BOY.
COME ON, MA! WE CAUGHT 'EM WITH TH' GOODS!


SO YOU'RE THE BUM WHO RAIDED OUR HEN HOUSE!
OOF!

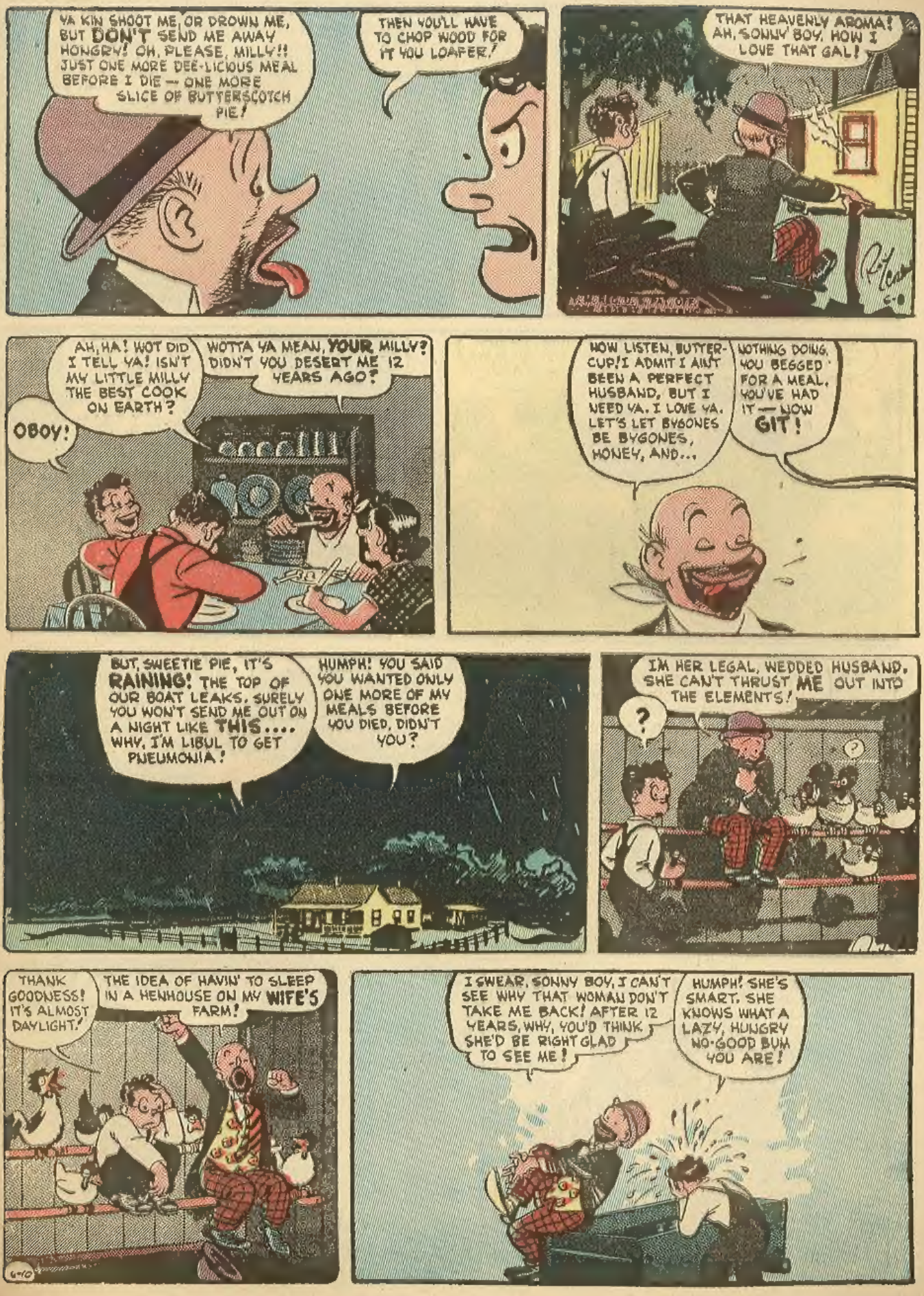
TAKE THAT! AND THAT!
WELL, FER MERCY SAKES! NO, NO, IRWIN! DON'T!
WHOP!


THAT MAN IS YOUR FATHER!
WHY, MILLY DARLIN'!


LOOK, WASHIE! IT'S IRWIN, MY LITTLE BOY! AN' MILLY MY WIFE THAT I LEFT 12 YEARS AGO!
YOU OLD ROOSTER! IT SURE TOOK A LONG TIME FOR YOU TO GET HUNGRY ENOUGH TO COME HOME!

I THOUGHT THINGS LOOKED KINDER FAMILIAR, MILLY, BUT...
FAMILIAR? THIS IS WHERE I LIVED. WHY, UNDER THAT TREE IS WHERE YOU PROPOSED TO ME. YOU TOOK MY HAND AND SAID I WAS THE LOVELIEST CREATURE ALIVE.

A PICNIC—NOW I REMEMBER! AN' YOU BROUGHT A LUNCH OF FRIED CHICKEN AN' BUTTERSCOTCH PIE, OH, WOTTA PIE THAT WAS!
HUMPH! IF THAT AIN'T JUST LIKE A MAN! HE MAY FORGET A GIRL'S PRETTY FACE, BUT
MY MY! WHAT A FINE, MANLY FELLER OUR LITTLE IRWIN GROWED TO BE! WHY I EYPE HE KIN EVEN PLOW!
THE FARM MAKES MONEY, TOO!
WE GOT $4000 IN THE BANK.
HUSBAND, MILLY.
GIT!!
THE NIGHTS I'VE WOKE UP DREAMIN' OF YOUR BUTTERSCOTCH PIE!


YA KIN SHOOT ME, OR DROWN ME, BUT DON'T SEND ME AWAY HONGRY! OH, PLEASE, MILLY!! JUST ONE MORE DEE-LICIOUS MEAL BEFORE I DIE — ONE MORE SLICE OF BUTTERSCOTCH PIE!
THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO CHOP WOOD FOR IT YOU LOAFER!
THAT HEAVENLY AROMA! AH, SONNY BOY, HOW I LOVE THAT GAL!
AH, HA! WOT DID I TELL YA! ISN'T MY LITTLE MILLY THE BEST COOK ON EARTH?
WOTTA YA MEAN, YOUR MILLY? DIDN'T YOU DESERT ME 12 YEARS AGO?
OBOY!
NOW LISTEN, BUTTER-CUP! I ADMIT I AIN'T BEEN A PERFECT HUSBAND, BUT I NEED YA. I LOVE YA. LET'S LET BYGONES BE BYGONES, HONEY, AND...
NOTHING DOING. YOU BEGGED FOR A MEAL. YOU'VE HAD IT — NOW GIT!
BUT, SWEETIE PIE, IT'S RAINING! THE TOP OF OUR BOAT LEAKS. SURELY YOU WON'T SEND ME OUT ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS.... WHY, I'M LIBUL TO GET PNEUMONIA!
HUMPH! YOU SAID YOU WANTED ONLY ONE MORE OF MY MEALS BEFORE YOU DIED, DIDN'T YOU?
I'M HER LEGAL, WEDDED HUSBAND. SHE CAN'T THRUST ME OUT INTO THE ELEMENTS!
?
?
THANK GOODNESS! IT'S ALMOST DAYLIGHT!
THE IDEA OF HAVIN' TO SLEEP IN A HENHOUSE ON MY WIFE'S FARM!
I SWEAR, SONNY BOY, I CAN'T SEE WHY THAT WOMAN DON'T TAKE ME BACK! AFTER 12 YEARS, WHY, YOU'D THINK SHE'D BE RIGHT GLAD TO SEE ME!
HUMPH! SHE'S SMART. SHE KNOWS WHAT A LAZY, HUNGRY NO-GOOD BUM YOU ARE!

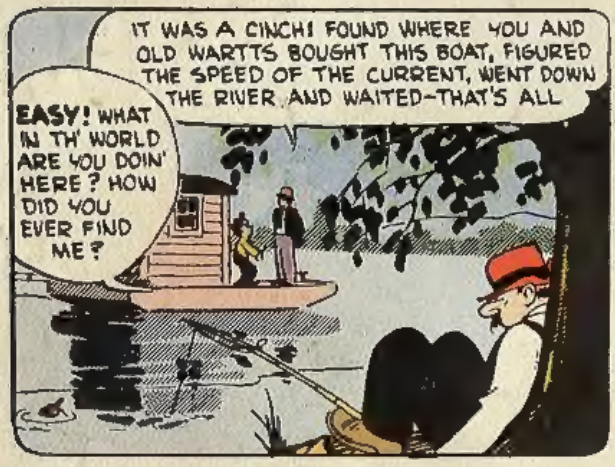
OH, YOU TALK BIG! YOU BRAG ABOUT BEIN' A NEW MAN, BUT I NOTICE YOU DON'T TRY TO PROVE IT.
HMM! MEBBE IF I DONE A LITTLE PLOWIN' SHE'D LET ME STAY TO BREAKFAST, HUH?
IF YOU DID A LOTTA PLOWIN', SHE MIGHT LET YOU STAY FOREVER!
WELL, BY JINGOES, THAT'S AN IDEA, SONNY! YOU BET I'LL PLOW! AT LEAST FOR A FEW DAYS, UNTIL SHE SEES I AIN'T LAZY!
WELL, FOR THE LAND SAKES! WHAT ON EARTH'S COME OVER YOU?
NOTHIN'. I'M JUST WHETTIN' UP MY APPETITE!
STUFF AND NONSENSE, JACKIE WARTTS! YOU NEVER DONE A LICK OF WORK IN YOUR LIFE... ESPECIALLY BEFORE BREAKFAST!
I TELL YA I'M A NEW MAN!
I LIKE TO WORK. I LOVE IT! PLEASE TAKE ME BACK, MILLY, HONEY. I WANTS TO HELP LIL IRWIN WI' TH' FARM!
OH, DARLIN', I B'LIEVE YOU REALLY MEAN IT. HOW CAN I SAY NO WHEN I'M SO HAPPY?
WHEE! THEN I EAT REGULAR!
BUT REMEMBER THIS, YOU OLD SCALAWAG-- IF YOU DON'T WORK, YOU DON'T EAT, AND THAT $800 BANK ACCOUNT STAYS UNDER MY NAME!
CONGRATULATE ME, WASHIE BOY. IT WORKED! THAT LITTLE DAB O' PLOWIN' CONVINCED MILLY THAT I'M A NEW MAN. SHE'S TAKEN ME BACK!
BUT WAIT'LL SHE FINDS OUT YOU'RE AS LAZY AS EVER!
WHO SAYS I'M LAZY? WHY, I LIKES TO WORK! I LOVES IT! AN' BESIDES, IRWIN DOES IT ALL.

NOW THAT YOU'RE BACK ON TH' FARM, MAMA WON'T NEED ME ANY MORE. S'LONG, PAPA, I'M GOIN' TO TH' CITY.
IRWIN!
COPR. 1939 BY NEA SERVICE, INC. T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
WHEN LIL IRWIN SAID GOODBY HE FAINTED!
WHY, THE OLD DARLING! I HAD NO IDEA HE WAS SO ATTACHED TO TH' BOY!
KA-ZONK!
AH, WOTTA BLOW! JUST WHEN MILLY HAD TOOK ME BACK AN' I EXPECTED LIL IRWIN TO DO ALL TH' WORK, HE UP 'N' GOES TO TH' CITY!
YOU'LL BE LEAVIN' TOO, I GUESS.
NO, SONNY BOY. I BEEN A NO-GOOD, ORNERY BUM LONG ENOUGH. I'M A-GOIN' THRU WITH THIS THING EVEN IF IT KILLS ME!
SURE, SETTLE DOWN. THAT'S TH' WAY TO TALK!
AH, WELL--- ALL ALONE!
JUST DRIFTIN'. LOOKS LIKE EVERYBODY HAS LOVED ONES, OR SOME PLACE TO GO, BUT ME
COPR. 1939 BY NEA SERVICE, INC. T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
HELLO! HERE COMES SOMEBODY IN A BOAT!
OF COURSE I'VE GIVEN TH' COPS THE SLIP, BUT JUST TH' SAME I BETTER GET OUT OF SIGHT.

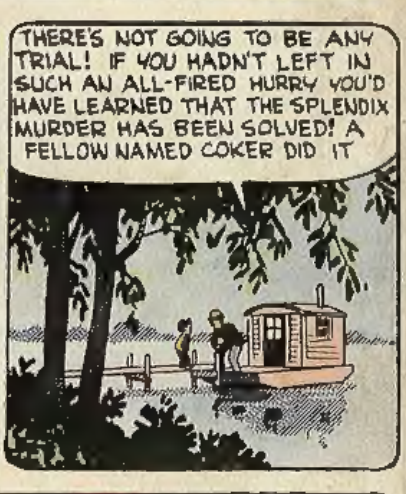
1943

HOLY SMOKE! HE'S COMIN' ABOARD!

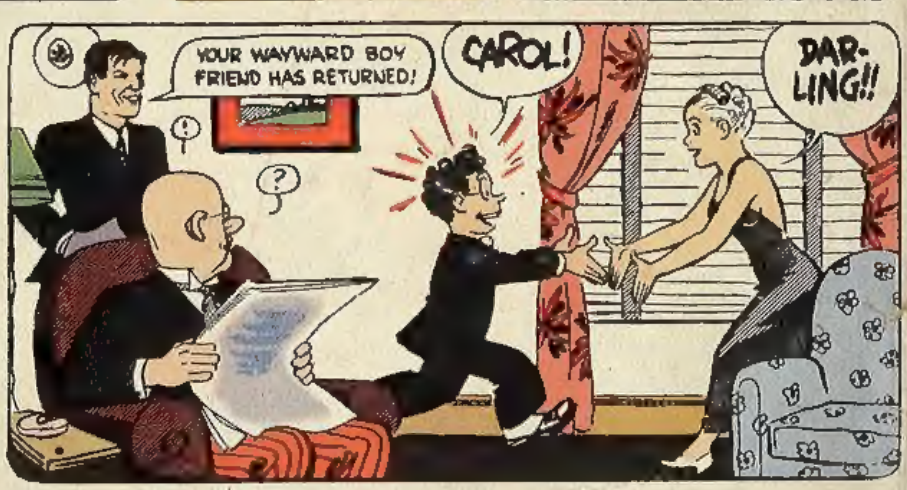
HI, HERMIT. HOW'S THE FISHING?
EASY!

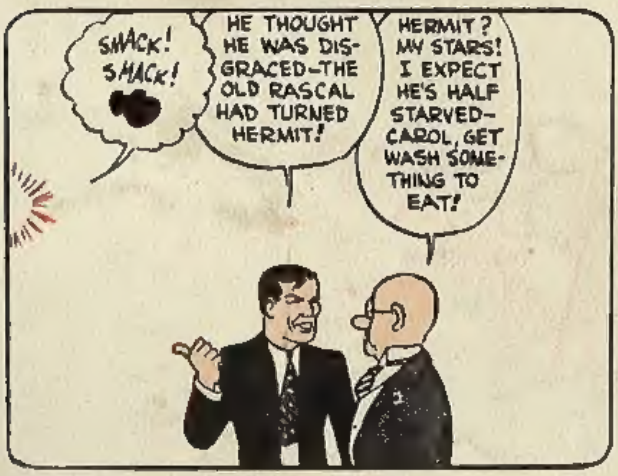

IT WAS A CINCH! FOUND WHERE YOU AND OLD WARTTS BOUGHT THIS BOAT, FIGURED THE SPEED OF THE CURRENT, WENT DOWN THE RIVER AND WAITED-THAT'S ALL
EASY! WHAT IN TH' WORLD ARE YOU DOIN' HERE? HOW DID YOU EVER FIND ME?

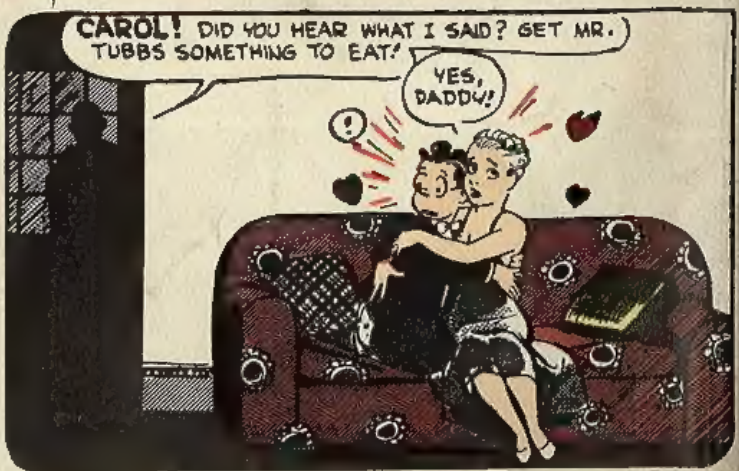
GET YOUR CLOTHES, IF YOU HAVE ANY- WE'RE GOING BACK HOME!
AN' STAND TRIAL?


THERE'S NOT GOING TO BE ANY TRIAL! IF YOU HADN'T LEFT IN SUCH AN ALL-FIRED HURRY YOU'D HAVE LEARNED THAT THE SPLENDIX MURDER HAS BEEN SOLVED! A FELLOW NAMED COKER DID IT

OH, I PLAYED A PART! IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME ALWAYS GETTING YOU OUT O' SCRAPES, LADDIE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'D DO!
WELL, I'LL BE! WHO SOLVED IT?


YOUR WAYWARD BOY FRIEND HAS RETURNED!
CAROL!
DAR-LING!!


SMACK! SMACK!
HE THOUGHT HE WAS DISGRACED-THE OLD RASCAL HAD TURNED HERMIT!
HERMIT? MY STARS! I EXPECT HE'S HALF STARVED- CAROL, GET WASH SOMETHING TO EAT!


CAROL! DID YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID? GET MR. TUBBS SOMETHING TO EAT!
YES, DADDY!